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# CHINA

No. 35745

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1954

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## COMMENT OF THE DAY

### Poor Balance Sheet

IT must be confessed that the balance sheet emerging from the Berlin conference is anything but impressive. No progress whatever was made on the two principal subjects—Germany and the Austrian peace treaty; on the contrary Russia and the Western powers are today further apart than ever before in their approach to these two European problems. Thus, so far as the main purpose of the deliberations is concerned, the four foreign ministers have to admit complete failure. Two minor achievements are to be noted: one was the decision to hold a round-table conference on Korea in April; the other to exchange views on world disarmament, aiming at a minimum at a substantial reduction in armaments. The significance of the first decision is that it breaks the Communist-United Nations deadlock over the convening of a Korean peace conference. The agreement also possesses interesting features. Firstly it excludes recognition of Communist China as one of the five world powers; secondly it substitutes the "round table" principle for the United Nations resolution on the Korean conference which laid down it should be a two-sided meeting with the belligerents sitting opposite each other. Thus both Mr. Molotov and the Western foreign ministers made helpful concessions which, it can only be hoped, will bear fruit when the Geneva conference is convened on April 28.

ON Germany, the East-West deadlock has been made complete by the failure of the Ministers to agree even on the procedure for alleviating the hardships caused by the division of their country. Not unnaturally the Western powers interpreted Mr. Molotov's proposals to set up all-German committees to effect this as the thin edge of a wedge designed to make them recognise the Communist East German Government. But the failure of the Big Four to make any progress on the German problem was not the biggest disappointment of the conference: no final agreement on that complicated question was anticipated. It was, however, expected that the Austrian state treaty problem would be settled especially in view of the Western powers' preparedness to accept the original Soviet proposals on the five clauses of the tentative treaty still in dispute. That even this would not satisfy Mr. Molotov has proved to the world at large that Russia has no intention of permitting Austria to regain her full independence, and that Mr. Molotov went to the Berlin conference cynically determined to have nothing to do with an Austrian peace treaty.

## SPOTLIGHT SHIFTS TO THE FAR EAST

### Big Four Decision Breaks Korean Deadlock

### AN "IMPORTANT ADVANCE"

Berlin, Feb. 18.

The spotlight on world affairs tonight shifted from Europe, where the Big Four foreign ministers candidly admitted that they had failed to reach agreement on Germany, Austria and European security, and revealed Korea and Indo-China in the centre of the political stage.

On April 26, in Geneva, representatives of Communist China will join world counsels, together with the representatives of Britain, France, the Soviet Union, the United States and other interested countries, in an effort to solve the problems of a divided Korea and a war-torn Indo-China.

But the United States, through its Secretary of State, Mr. John Foster Dulles, has made it clear that meeting Communist China in an international conference will not involve diplomatic recognition of the Chinese People's government.

Nor will the conference be a five-power affair only as demanded by the Soviet Union in the early stages of the Berlin conference.

The final communiqué of the Berlin conference issued today revealed that, in discussing the problem of Korea, those taking part with Communist China would include the Republic of Korea, the People's Democratic Republic of Korea and other countries whose armed forces had participated in the hostilities in Korea and which desired to take part in the deliberations in Geneva.

In the case of Indo-China, the communiqué continued that Communist China would be accompanied to the conference by "other interested states."

The four foreign ministers, "the communiqué said, "considering that the establishment by peaceful means of a united and independent Korea would be an important factor in the reduction of international tension and the restoration of peace in other parts of Asia, propose that a conference of representatives of Britain, France, the Soviet Union, the United States, the People's Republic of China, the Republic of Korea, the People's Democratic Republic of Korea and other countries, whose armed forces have participated in the hostilities in Korea and which desire to participate in the settlement of the Korean question."

The communiqué added that "the problem of the restoration of peace in Indo-China" would also be examined at the conference, to which "other interested states" would be invited.

#### UNITING KOREA

In his final speech, Mr. Dulles told the conference that he hoped the decision to meet in Geneva would be acceptable to the other parties concerned. The decision, he added, would provide a possibility of uniting Korea in freedom as had been promised.

The decision, continued the American Secretary of State, would also furnish an opportunity, if Communist China so wished, of restoring peace and good order in Indo-China, thus enabling the Associated States to have freedom and enjoy it in security.

The British Foreign Secretary, Mr. Anthony Eden, who expressed disappointment over the

failure to reach agreement on European problems, described the calling of the Geneva conference as "a different matter."

"It breaks the deadlock that has existed for so many months at Panmunjom," he declared, "and opens the way for a settlement in Korea. This is an important advance."

Mr. Eden also welcomed the prospect of an eventual settlement in Indo-China.

"I think moreover," he continued, "it is fair to say that even where our policies are fundamentally opposed, as the discussions here have not been, we understand one another's position."

Mr. Eden then thanked his colleagues and said he looked forward to seeing them again in Geneva in April.

Both the French Foreign Minister, M. Georges Bidault, and the Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr. Vyacheslav Molotov, expressed regret at the failure of the conference on European problems but welcomed the agreement to hold a conference on Korea and Indo-China.

British diplomatic circles tonight greeted the decision to an Asian conference and described it as a step on the road to settling the general problem of the Far East and one which should lead to a reduction in international tension.

#### VICTORY FOR BOTH

They said that the importance of the decision lay in the fact that it represented a victory for both camps.

Though Mr. Molotov had not succeeded in obtaining a five-power conference, at least Communist China had secured recognition as a leading Asian power in a conference designed to deal with problems of that region.

British circles said also that the United States had given proof of diplomatic elasticity in meeting Communist China, while the French had acquired the opportunity of finishing, with dignity and with the agreement of her allies and the Associated States of Indo-China a long and costly war.

They added that the decision was also a triumph for Mr. Eden, who had succeeded, in tackling all outstanding world problems to those of Europe.—France-Press.

## Turncoat GI To Be Tried

Washington, Feb. 18.

The United States Army announced today that Corporal Edward S. Dickenson, who first embraced and then renounced Communism, while a war prisoner in Korea, will be tried by court martial.

The Army said that a pre-trial investigation disclosed "sufficient information" to make necessary "the court martial against the Cracker Neck, Virginia, mountain boy."

It said that Dickenson will be tried on charges:

1—"That he committed a crime by giving information to his captors concerning his fellow prisoners in order to receive favourable treatment and by so doing caused these other Americans punishment and hardship, and

2—"That such communication with the enemy is unlawful, and contrary to regulation and custom."

Dickenson also is charged with "unlawfully and without authority" associating and collaborating with the enemy.

#### CHANGED HIS MIND

The Army emphasized that the charges on which Dickenson will be tried involve his actions while a prisoner of the Communists and not while he was in the neutral zone under the custody of the Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission.

It was while he was in the hands of the Indian Custodial Command that Dickenson changed his mind and decided to return to the United States.

"The Army said that Dickenson would have been similarly charged and tried even had he returned in the prisoner exchange" last Summer and Autumn.

The maximum penalty for conviction on charges of aiding the enemy is death. Conviction on charges of misconduct while a prisoner is punishable by a prison sentence, dishonourable discharge or other punishment decreed by the court martial, but not death.—United Press.

## Egyptian Slain By Border Patrol

Tel-Aviv, Feb. 18.

An Egyptian soldier was killed today during an exchange of fire between an Israeli border patrol and an Egyptian squad near Mir El-Am, an Israeli Army spokesman said tonight.

He said Egyptian troops from the Gaza Strip crossed the Israeli border and the body of an Egyptian soldier was found some 100 yards inside Israeli territory. The Israeli border patrol fired back and killed one of the Egyptian soldiers. The Israeli border patrol also fired back and killed one of the Egyptian soldiers. The Israeli border patrol also fired back and killed one of the Egyptian soldiers.

## Elephants Go To War



Although it may seem strange to the Western world to use an elephant in the same manner as a horse to fight a war, this is not so in the land of Cambodia, one of the three associated states of Indo-China. Elephants are used by the Khmer "Cambodian" Battalions (12,000 formerly French trained and supervised, but now completely under Cambodian control), to transport food supplies and munitions to troops out on patrol. This ancient method of using elephants dates back to the Khmer reign about 10th century, and is somewhat reminiscent of Hannibal and his elephant corps in their fight against Roman Legions.—London Express.

## Adventurous Voyage Ends

Barbados, Feb. 18.

Three young Britons guided their tough little 12-ton yacht into harbour here on Tuesday after a gruelling 88-day Atlantic crossing from Dakar.

Aboard the torn and battered Petula were 27-year-old Frank Evans, 33-year-old Roland Sherman, marine biologist, and 32-year-old Claude Dickson, meteorologist, who set out from Sutton Harbour, Plymouth, on August 28.

The scientific survey which they carried out on the storm-whipped voyage was one of the longest in history. During the trip they measured the sea and air temperatures, took samples of plankton, photographed, measured and checked fish for parasites.

On arrival at Carlisle Harbour here, the Petula still had ample food but water supplies were running low.

The Britons will stay about one month in Barbados before taking their samples back to the London University for laboratory tests.

Although the trip was run as a private venture, it received support from the Belgian Natural History Museum in Brussels.

On the voyage, the Petula towed a 16 by eight-foot raft which was released about 200 miles out from Barbados.

Each day the party took turns in tending the raft and studying sea life.—United Press.

#### Quake Recorded

Palmyra, Calif., Feb. 18. A 2.5 magnitude quake, earth quake, was recorded at 11:00 miles from the coast. The quake was recorded at 11:00 miles from the coast. The quake was recorded at 11:00 miles from the coast.

## Red Rebels Stop Fighting

### STRANGE LULL IN INDO-CHINA

Hanoi, Feb. 18.

Communist rebel activity slackened mysteriously throughout almost all Indo-China today and some circles wondered if it was linked with the winding up of the Berlin conference.

Only in one isolated spot in the Central Zone were the Reds on the offensive, according to the French High Command. French Union forces profited from the lull to push scattered clean-up drives.

"The Vietminh has shown no important activity in the whole of Indo-China during the day," announced headquarters.

Coming in the wake of widespread, though officially denied, rumours that unofficial Red emissaries might now be sounding out possibilities of peace negotiations, the situation led some observers to theorise that the Vietminh might be attempting a new psychological strategy against the West within the frame of the Berlin decision on an Indo-China peace parity.

The French have denied the rumours emphatically, but so far no declaration had come from the Vietnamese government.

Bole Red action up to a late hour was new basing of the little post of Dakdon, north of Pleiku, in the Central Vietnam mountains. The garrison repulsed its attackers, as it had some 10 times previous in the past two weeks, headquarters said.

**BOMBING RAIDS**  
With the rebels seemingly loosening their grasp around Luang Prabang and besieging Muong Sai in Laos, the French Air Force swung into action with strong bombing raids.

Direct hits with flaming napalm on Vietminh bivouacs near Muong Sai, north of Luang Prabang, caused "severe losses," it was said. At both points, ground patrols could find only minor enemy units.

The French meanwhile evaluated at more than 100 dead the toll of Reds taken during their fruitless attack on Tuesday against Tchepone, midway across the narrow Indo-China waist. A French mobile column operating farther northeast seized the roadside village of Nhommarat.

The French Defence Minister, M. Rene Pleven, now inspecting Indo-China with special powers to push the war, meanwhile returned to Hanoi from Phnompenh, where he talked with youthful King Norodom Sihanouk of Cambodia.

He said his main reason for the meeting was to discuss strengthening of the Royal Cambodian Army, now small but being swelled by national conscription.

"I have a very satisfactory impression of the clear progress being made by the Army," M. Pleven told newsmen. "I was struck by the firmness of the authorities to reinforce to the maximum defence of their country, Cambodia, from all evidence, is on the right road."

—United Press.

## More Rioting In Calcutta

Calcutta, Feb. 18.

Demonstrators waged guerrilla war against police and troops here last night on the third day of rioting touched off by the strike of 25,000 secondary school teachers in West Bengal.

About 200 people were arrested for disturbing the peace and damaging state property.

In North Calcutta, police opened fire twice on rioters who retaliated with bricks and home-made bombs. One policeman was seriously injured when a bomb exploded in his face.

Police foiled several attempts to set state buses on fire. In some areas brickbats were thrown at passengers in moving buses.

Police said last night the rioters operated by entering back lanes and plunging them in darkness by smothering the street lamps. Then they attacked police and troops with brickbats.

In one area police fought a two-hour battle before breaking up a crowd of demonstrators.

An official statement last night said Wednesday's rioting caused about 274,000 damage to state property.—Reuter.



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## REBELS BLOW UP TRAIN

Rangoon, Feb. 18.

The engine driver and two firemen of a goods train were reported missing, when insurgents, believed to be Karen rebels, blew up a train south of Toungoo early this morning, reports reaching here this evening said.

Toungoo lies 185 miles north of Rangoon on the railway to Mandalay. The engine and 11 coaches jumped into the air when the bridge was dynamited. A relief train left immediately for the place of the accident after reports were received this evening. Railway officials, with 100 men, are expected to repair the damaged bridge soon.

#### KIKUYU Hanged

Nairobi, Kenya, Feb. 18. A 35-year-old Kikuyu, who had been hanged for the murder of a white woman, was hanged today. The man was hanged for the murder of a white woman. The man was hanged for the murder of a white woman.

**Fly your CARGO to the USA by PAL**

**Free Market In Cotton Bill**

London, Feb. 18. The House of Commons, by 280 votes to 241, last night passed a bill which opens the way to a free market in cotton for British exporters. The bill provides for the winding up of the Cotton Corporation, which has recently been nationalised. The bill also provides for the establishment of a new body to regulate the cotton trade.



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# "FAVOURABLE TURN" IN INDO-CHINA

## Optimistic Forecast By U.S. Defence Leader

Washington, Feb. 18. The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Admiral Arthur Radford, today predicted a "favourable turn" in the Indo-China war within a very few months.

This view was given to a private meeting of the Far East Subcommittee of the House of Representatives before which the Admiral and Acting Secretary of State, Mr. Walter Bedell Smith, testified on the Indo-China situation today. They told the Subcommittee that Communist prospects of an ultimate victory "are non-existent."

### Partially Blind Veteran Won The Prize

Sydney, Feb. 18. Mr. Harley Cohen, 60, partially blinded World War One veteran, won a country-wide competition organised by the Songwriters' and Composers' Association to find an Australian national anthem.

Mr. Cohen, who has been writing songs as a hobby since he was at Gallipoli, named his entry "Because I Love Australia."

He is giving all proceeds from the sale of sheet music of his song to the Partially Blind Soldiers' Association.

A large production error in Australia will play the anthem in its theatre, — China Mail Special.

### Eisenhower's Plans To Meet Recession

New York, Feb. 18. If employment in America does not pick up in March—as it usually does—President Eisenhower said yesterday he would be prepared to consider anti-recession action including possible tax concessions to boost consumer purchasing power.

The President's statement was generally interpreted as the strongest recognition to date that perhaps more drastic governmental action might be in the offing than has been prescribed to date.

The President reiterated that the Government was prepared to move rapidly and effectively to forestall any severe business setback.

Meanwhile, Republican and Democratic Congressmen appeared ready to back any emergency measures should the President feel corrective steps are required.

Democrats praised the President for "belatedly" recognising the United States is faced with a recession. Republicans, on the other hand, insisted that business will pick up and that the situation is not as gloomy as depicted by the Democrats.

Administration spokesmen are banking on the expected boost in Spring sales to put the economy on an upward trend. They expect sales boosts around Easter. That is when a "seasonal" pick-up usually occurs.

Housewives buy clothes, farmers new equipment. There is more talk than of buying new cars; construction work generally picks up.

In the opinion of Government experts, climbing Spring sales will be accompanied by declining inventories. By mid-year, it is estimated that present inventories of \$79,800,000,000 will fall by \$2,000,000,000.

A chain reaction would set in, the experts said: more orders for goods, a step-up in production and more employment.—United Press.

A statement issued later by the Subcommittee Chairman, Mr. Walter Judd (Republican) quoted Admiral Radford as saying: "Both General Navarre and General Hinh, Chief of Staff of the Vietnamese army, have developed a broad strategic concept which within a very few months should insure a favourable turn in the course of the war."

"It involves strengthening the armies fighting the Communists through the development of important new elements of the Vietnamese National Army."

The statement which was approved by the Admiral and Mr. Smith, added: "Both witnesses underlined the point that although the French and Indo-Chinese are confronted with an enemy increasingly powerful because of Chinese Communist assistance, Communist prospects of achieving any decisive immediate successes are slight, while their prospects of an ultimate victory are non-existent."

"The goal of the Communists during recent months, the Subcommittee was told, has been through spectacular military movements, to achieve an appearance of success not at all justified by their actual deeds."

### AFFECT MORALE

"Their aim has been thereby to affect adversely the morale of the peoples opposed to them and to make them despair of eventual success. In this they have failed."

"It involves primarily the strengthening of the armies fighting against the Communists through the development of important new elements of the Vietnamese National Army," he said.

Mr. Judd said that as to sending additional United States troops to Indo-China, "there is nothing new in the works. We are carrying out the programme (of military and technical aid) with rapidity and success."

Mr. Judd told reporters that there were no plans for sending more United States troops to Indo-China.

Admiral Radford told reporters: "I feel that militarily the situation is satisfactory and I also feel that we are meeting French requests for material and technical assistance."

He said that there is no pending "proposal" to send additional troops to Indo-China to help native troops. "I consider it speculation," he told reporters. — United Press and Reuter.

### Modernising British Railways

London, Feb. 18. British Railways have announced that this year they will force ahead with plans to replace obsolete rolling stock.

They hope to provide 2,750 new passenger train coaches, 53,000 freight wagons and 325 locomotives this year.

This is two and a half times the number of passenger train coaches built last year, 38 per cent more freight wagons and 50 per cent more locomotives, a reflection of the improved steel supply and the British Transport Commission's determination to modernise the railways as quickly as possible.—China Mail Special.

### The Belles Of St. Trinian's



'Sixth Formers' queue for tea after filming a dormitory scene for the New Lancaster-Gillist production, 'The Belles of St. Trinian's'—based on Ronald Searle's amusing school of fiction—at Shepperton Studios, Middlesex.

## Communists At "Critical Point" In Philippines

Manila, Feb. 18. The Communist movement in the Philippines has reached a critical point, according to informed sources. Battered by the armed forces and robbed of much of its emotional appeal by the policies of President Magsaysay, the Communist inspired and led Huk organisation has been broken into small bands operating in the mountain areas of Luzon Island.

Intelligence sources estimate that the Huk have some 3,200 armed members now compared to possibly 10 times that number in 1950.

The sources have evidence to indicate that there is a fight among the top Huk leaders for control of the tattered remnants of the party and military organisation.

Huk operations have been reduced to indiscriminate ambushes and terrorism, burning of cane fields and robberies. Intelligence sources believe the Huk are desperately trying to find some way to ease the incessant pressure on them and to gain time to rebuild their forces.

Recent incidents convinced Government officials that the Communists were on the downgrade.

### TWO POINTERS

Here are two pointers:  
1. Huk "Supreme" Luis Taruc met with a representative of President Magsaysay and said he wanted to end the "civil war" with the Government. Taruc praised Magsaysay, the man responsible for foiling the Reds' drive for power, and said he approved of the last reform policies and other plans of Mr. Magsaysay. He did not offer to surrender.

2. Another top Huk leader, Celedonio Alejandrino, negotiated with a Magsaysay spokesman about surrender conditions. The Government rejected conditions laid down by Alejandrino which included the promise of presidential pardon for all past crimes and permission to keep weapons.

While the Government officials conferred with the two leaders at separate spots, military operations in the areas were suspended.

Officials felt that the two Huk men were stalling for time in the standard Communist manner while their forces regrouped and were re-supplied, but wanted to follow every possibility of ending the killing.

UNTIL MONDAY  
Mr. Magsaysay and the Army's chief, Major-General Jesus Vargas, gave the decisions until Monday to surrender on Government terms.

before a full-scale campaign to wipe them out was opened.

General Vargas wanted to give them only 48 hours, but Mr. Magsaysay overruled the Chief of Staff.

The intelligence sources said that Alejandrino had moved up from the No. 4 spot in the Huk hierarchy and was challenging Taruc for overall command.

The No. 1 leader, Jesus Lava, has not been heard from for some time and it was believed that there was a possibility he was dead, sick or out of the country.

There were no indications that the Philippine Communist movement was being materially supported by the Chinese or Russian Communists.—United Press.

### INTERESTING JOB

New Haven, Connecticut, Feb. 18.

David H. Parsons, who left his job as a shipping clerk in a mail order store two years ago to join the staff of Yale's Peabody Museum of Natural History, leaves for Australia tomorrow to search for rare birds and small mammals needed for scientific research.

Mr. Parsons will spend at least six months in the Northern Territory, Melville Island and Queensland. He hopes to bring back specimens to replenish the Yale collection which is 215 years old and originally was acquired from the noted bird painter, John Gould. — United Press.

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# MOVE TO RECOGNISE RED CHINA SEEN IN USA

## Fears Of Peking's Inclusion In Far East Talks Expressed By Congressmen

Washington, Feb. 18.

A number of U.S. Congressmen said today they saw in the Big Four decision to include Red China in a Far East peace conference at Geneva the possibility that the U.S. Government might recognise the Peking regime and permit its entry into the United Nations.

Senator Richard B. Russell (Georgia), ranking Democrat on the Senate Armed Services Committee, said: "If this is the entering wedge to recognition of Red China, if it involves admission of Red China to the United Nations, I think it's an awful move. But if it only means an effort is made to arrive at some clear understanding for peace in the Far East, I'm not against it."

### Illegal Distillery Raided

Johannesburg, Feb. 18. Johannesburg's Flying Squad seized 20,000 bottles of newly-distilled brandy and gin in a cramped warren of passages and tiny rooms under an innocent-looking suburban shop.

Police said that the illegal distillery, biggest ever detected in South Africa, was operated clandestinely.

Powerful fumes filled the place because the electric current was switched off but when it was on the fumes were driven directly into the city streets and no smell of the spirits could tantalise customers in the shop overhead.

In the cellars were 115 cases of liquor and half a dozen big metal tanks containing "ripened" spirit for bottling and shipment.—Reuter.

Senator Mike Mansfield (Democrat, Montana), a member of the Foreign Relations Committee, said, "If such a conference is held, it will make little difference if Red China is admitted as a back-seat member or a full-fledged participant. This would, in effect, accord a degree of recognition to Communist China that has previously been denied by this country. I am opposed to the recognition of Red China."

Representative Charles J. Kersten (Republican, Wisconsin) complained: "This is the first step toward recognition of Red China."

He told a reporter that Russia had scored a triumph in getting Red China accepted at the Geneva conference.

Representative Walter H. Judd, a key member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, said he was not happy about the proposed meeting. He said it would give the Communists "more and more chances to carry on their skillful manoeuvres and dust-throwing and efforts to divide and weaken our side."

"It will inevitably increase the power and position of Communist China in the minds of people on the fence," Representative Judd said.

He warned that the meeting might set off a whole string of negotiations between Asiatic countries like Japan, India, Burma, Indo-China and Thailand with the Red Chinese.

"It is questionable whether any possible advantages in the long run can offset the immediate psychological bad results."

"If we handle it every step of the way with great skill," he said, "perhaps we can get some psychological, diplomatic victory."

Representative James P. Richards, ranking Democrat on the Committee, said, "I don't see any objection. It may help to make these fellows (Communists) show their hand somewhat like Hitler did."

"We may find out sooner (by having a conference) whether they intend to do something about it (Korea) or let the stalemate continue," he said.

Senator Walter F. George (Georgia), senior Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee, said Red China's participation in the Geneva conference might be a first step toward recognising Red China.—United Press.

## Eden, Dulles Leave

Berlin, Feb. 18.

The American Secretary of State, Mr. John Foster Dulles, left here by plane for Wahn airport, Cologne, at 8 p.m. (7 p.m. GMT) and the United States Secretary, Mr. Anthony Eden, is expected to leave at 3.05 p.m. tomorrow (2.05 p.m. GMT).

Mr. Eden will go directly to London, and will be accompanied by Mr. Anthony Nutting, the Parliamentary Secretary at the Foreign Office, Sir Frank Roberts, the United States Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and several other members of the British delegation.

Mr. Dulles flew to Wahn airport in an American military plane. At Tempelhof airport, Mr. Dulles was seen off by the West Berlin burgomaster, Dr.

Walter Schreiber, the chairman of the Berlin House of Representatives, Dr. Otto Suhr, and several officials representing the British and French military governments.

The missions of the Western countries in Berlin were also represented.

Mr. Dulles is expected to be accompanied on the return journey to the United States by the American delegation to the Berlin conference. Before leaving, he said he was sad to leave Berlin without having been able to do more for the city, and said he was determined to continue his efforts in future.

He was grateful for the reception he received from Berliners, and regretted he had not been able to see more of the city.

He hoped the next time he visited Berlin would be made under better circumstances. He praised Berlin as the symbol of freedom which commands the admiration of the world.—France-Press.

### EAST-WEST TRADE

New York, Feb. 18. One little-noted side of the Big Four Foreign Ministers' conference in Berlin has been Russia's demand that the West drop its restrictions on trade with the Communist world, says a United Press dispatch.

The stand of the Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr. V. M. Molotov, in Berlin has been a continuation of a campaign launched by Russia two years ago, first to break the Allied blockade against the shipment of strategic goods to the Reds, and the second to woo away the United States' allies with promises of vast profits to be made in trade with the East.

Since the death of Stalin and the rise of Premier Georgi Malenkov, there also has been the rising conviction that Russia must vastly step up its imports from the West if it is to carry out promises of a higher standard of living at home.

A British trade delegation in Moscow has sent back glittering reports about the possibilities of Russian trade.

This British report that the Reds have offered to buy \$1,000,000,000 worth of goods, including a huge order for ships, however, came with the cooler news that British trade circles already are convinced that all that is being offered is Russia's attempt to lure away the West's allies and to break the Allied blockade against the shipment of strategic goods to the Reds.—United Press.



Hardly believable, but it's the same girl—singer GERTRUDE HOLT as she appears in TV's "Opera for Everybody." Gertrude's charming and elegant Dorabella from "Cool fan tulle" contrasts with her gipsy Azucena in Verdi's "Il Trovatore." In her last TV appearance, she sang as the courtesan, Madalena, in Verdi's "Rigoletto." Gertrude, London-born, has the rare coloratura mezzo-soprano voice. Dina Borzoi, the Italian tenor under whom she studied, calls her voice "exceptional."

## To Make An Average Scot Look Bored Just Mention "Home Rule"

Glasgow, Feb. 18.

Scottish home rulers who want a political and economic breakaway from England are gloomily watching their hopes fade after some fairly spectacular postwar successes. Three years ago, the question of a separate Parliament for Scotland was on every Highland tongue. Today, if you mention it to the average Scotsman, he shrugs his shoulders and looks bored.

Temporarily, at least, it looks like a lost cause, destroyed by the acts of extremists in the movement.

Yet, around 1950, 2,000,000 Scots out of a total population of 5,000,000 enthusiastically signed a Covenant calling for home rule for Scotland.

An opinion poll taken by a mass-circulation newspaper appeared to show that 70 per cent of the population were for self-government, and only 15 per cent against. The remaining 15 per cent had no views on it.

The Covenant Association, led by a lawyer, Dr. John MacCormack, and backed by many prominent Scots men and women, gained its success because it appealed to the curious blend of romanticism and severe logic which makes up the character of the average Scot.

It did not go to extremes. Scotland would have a Parliament of her own but she would still remain within the United Kingdom. The sponsors of the Covenant put forward economic arguments as to why Scotland, with her tweed, whisky and ship-building, could be better off handling her own business and affairs, leaving foreign policy and defence to the national Parliament in London.

### FLOCKED

In cities, towns and villages Scotsmen flocked to sign the Covenant and it looked as though a wave of nationalistic fervour was sweeping over the Heather.

Then came the affair of the Stone of Destiny.

On Christmas Day, 1950, a group of young Scottish nationalists broke into Westminster Abbey, London, and removed the historic block of sandstone on which ancient Scottish kings were crowned. They took it back to Scotland, from where it had been seized by King Edward I of England in 1296, and kept it hidden for four months.

This was the start of the decline. Some of the Covenant Movement leaders appeared to approve the Stone of Destiny incident. As a result, many sober-minded Scots who had willingly signed the Covenant, drew back as though their fingers had been burned. The invasion of England's great national shrine was disastrous to them. They wanted no part in wild, romantic escapades which flouted the law.

### HASTENED DECLINE

Quarrels among leaders of the Covenant Movement, with the resignations of some of the most respected and responsible personalities, hastened the decline.

The move to the Throne of Queen Elizabeth, thought these solid action by extreme nationalists. Members of a mysterious organisation called the "Scottish Republican Army" blew up police boxes and petrol pumps, and kidnapped a judge.

little seemed petty to many Scots and the campaign probably lost more supporters to the cause than it gained.

Then, last November, a sensational trial in Edinburgh caused the biggest stamp of all its support for the nationalist cause. Four young nationalists were charged with "plotting to overthrow the Government in Scotland."

It was alleged that they had intended to blow up St Andrew's House, Edinburgh, headquarters of Government Departments in Scotland.

The accused pleaded that their "conspiracy" was an elaborate hoax designed to show up police agents and informers who were penetrating the nationalist movement. The jury acquitted them on the major charges of trying to overthrow the realm, but they were sent to prison for a year on the lesser count of possessing explosives.

Other nationalists have since tried to have the youth hailed as "martyrs," but with little success. Most Scots men and women in fact have gone to the other extreme and claim that the trial, with its adolescent "cloak and dagger" heroics, has held Scotland up to ridicule abroad.—China Mail Special.

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### UK Government White Paper Says:

## 'Intense Atomic Attack For Short Time If War Should Break Out'

London, Feb. 18.

The British government white paper on defence today stated that "should global war be forced upon Britain, it must be assumed that atomic weapons would be employed on both sides, and the conflict would probably start with a relatively short period of intense atomic attacks."

The defence of the United Kingdom, said the white paper, is indissolubly linked with the North Atlantic Defence Treaty. It added: "While the government will work for a further improvement in international relations, the long term aims of world Communism appear to be unaltered."

It was clear, said the document, that one of the principal Soviet aims was to weaken the strength and cohesion of the Atlantic alliance.

It pointed out the fact that fighting was continuing in Malaya and Indo-China.

The paper said that it was therefore essential that "our Commonwealth partners and ourselves should combine to build up our armed strength to the maximum of ability."

The statement added that "provided that the defence effort is maintained and that we continue to conduct our diplomacy with patience and resolution, it is the government's view that the continuation for a long period of the present state of cold war is more likely than the outbreak of a major war on any particular date."

A prospect of intense atomic attack emphasises yet again the prime necessity of basing our defence policy on the prevention of war," the statement said.

### OFFSET MANPOWER

It said: "It also makes clear the need to keep the lead, which we now hold, in technical development on which we must rely, to offset the preponderance of the Communist states in manpower."

Discussing atomic weapons and guided missiles, the statement said it would be some years yet before Britain had enough of these to bring about any very radical modification in the pattern of her defence effort.

"Even in a major war, it does not seem likely that the possession of new weapons will make it any less necessary to keep a firm series of troops on the ground and of aircraft to withstand the first shock of an attack, to hold the enemy until mobilisation is completed, and to exploit and consolidate the tactical situations which the new weapons will create."

### ADVANCED STAGE

Guided missiles have reached "an advanced stage of development."

The statement said "an air to air weapon will be the first to come into service, and surface to air weapons will follow." The estimated total active strength of the British forces on April 1 this year is 855,500; and on April 1 next year, 844,300.

added the white paper. During the 1954-55 period, the active strength of the navy and the air force are expected to remain broadly constant, but the army should increase by about 13,000. The period of national service would remain at 24 months, but the white paper said "the government will keep under review the possibility of shortening the period should circumstances permit."—France-Press & Reuter.

## Next ECAFE Meeting To Be In Tokyo

Colombo, Feb. 18.

The next session of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE) will be held next year in Tokyo, it was decided at the 11th plenary session of ECAFE which concluded today at Kandy.

Japan's delegate Mr. I. Hota, who conveyed the invitation of his government, also moved a resolution urging that "the United Nations Economic and Social Council should give effect to the recommendation of the commission that associate members responsible for their own international relations be admitted to full membership."

This motion was accepted, with only the Soviet Union voting against.

After heated discussions, the report for submission to the Economic and Social Council was adopted according to Chairman C. Desai's view that the report should include only the views of the commission, and not of individual members.

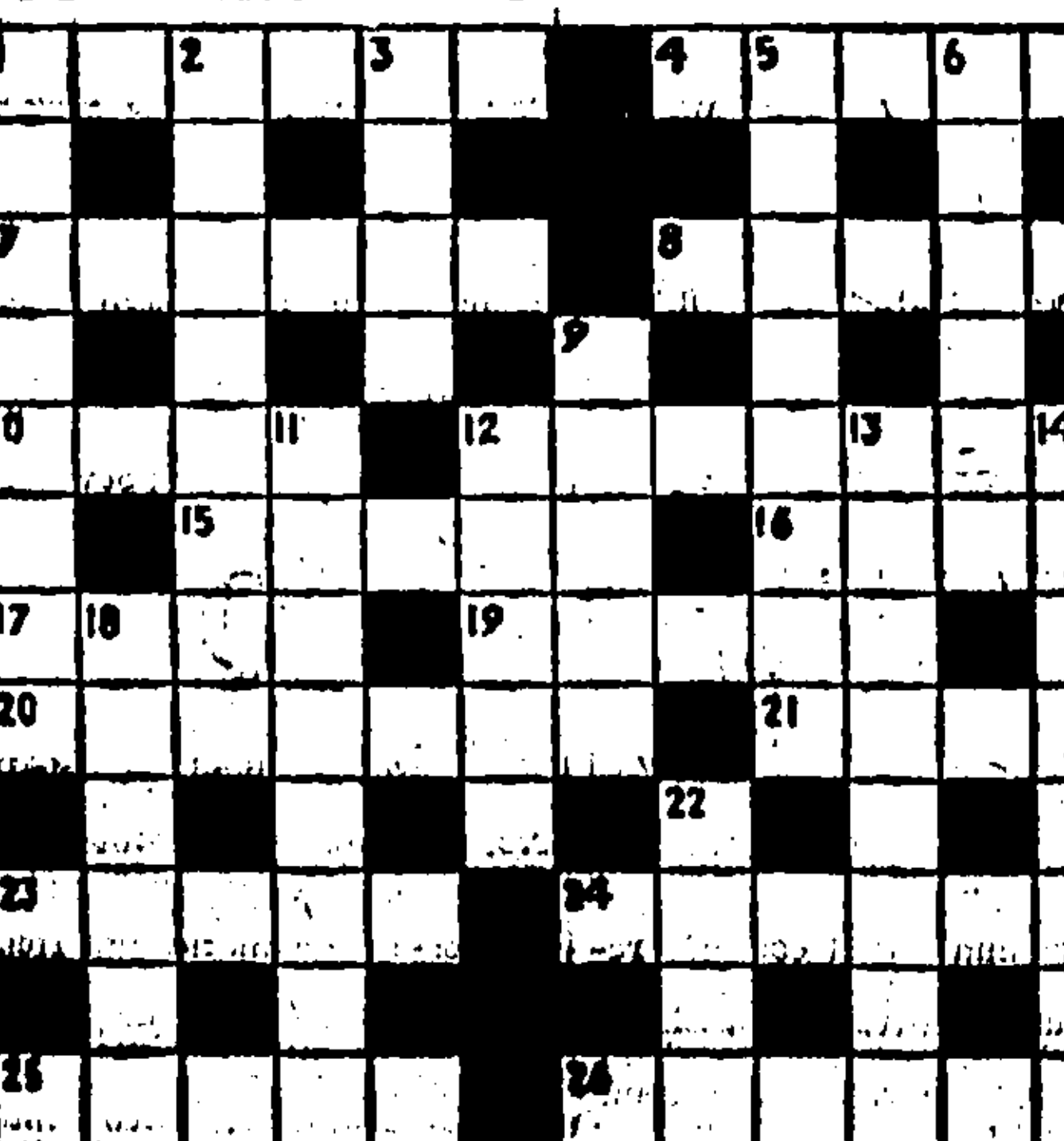
The commission also decided to recommend to the Economic and Social Council that Afghanistan should be included within the geographical region of ECAFE.—France-Press.

## 15 KILLED IN PLANE CRASH

Tunis, Feb. 18.

A French naval Junkers plane crashed and exploded in flames on the mountains of Djebel Zaghouan south of Tunis, tonight and all 15 men on board were killed.—Reuter.

### A British Crossword Puzzle



#### ACROSS

- 1 Empty (8).
- 2 Service (8).
- 3 Agree (8).
- 4 Slant (8).
- 5 Come into view (4).
- 6 Embassy (7).
- 7 Horizontal (5).
- 8 Insects (4).
- 9 Hasten (4).
- 10 Began (5).
- 11 Began (7).
- 12 Book (4).
- 13 Unfinished (5).
- 14 Deprive of weapons (0).
- 15 Scatter (5).
- 16 Charge (5).

#### DOWN

- 1 Slender (8).
- 2 Solaced (8).
- 3 Intelligence (4).
- 4 Waiter (8).
- 5 Noble of discharge (0).
- 6 Merry occasions (5).
- 7 Physics (8).
- 8 Slugs show (8).
- 9 Intervention (5).
- 10 Valued highly (8).
- 11 Small shot (5).
- 12 Baiting resort (4).

Yesterday's crossword: Across: 1. Shatters, 2. Exile, 3. Ruminated, 11. Tortoise, 12. Pave, 13. Style, 14. Skid, 15. Undo, 22. Regulate, 24. Precursor, 25. Result, 26. Treachery. Down: 1. Pithy, 2. Score, 3. Strala, 4. Hoist, 5. Tick, 6. Enlist, 7. Sudden, 10. Bold, 11. Riled, 18. Purifier, 19. Puppet, 17. Address, 20. Vague, 21. Baiting, 23. Rear, 24. Gully.

**EMPIRE** **MAJESTIC**

**TO-DAY** **TO-DAY**

At 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 p.m. At 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 & 9.30 p.m.

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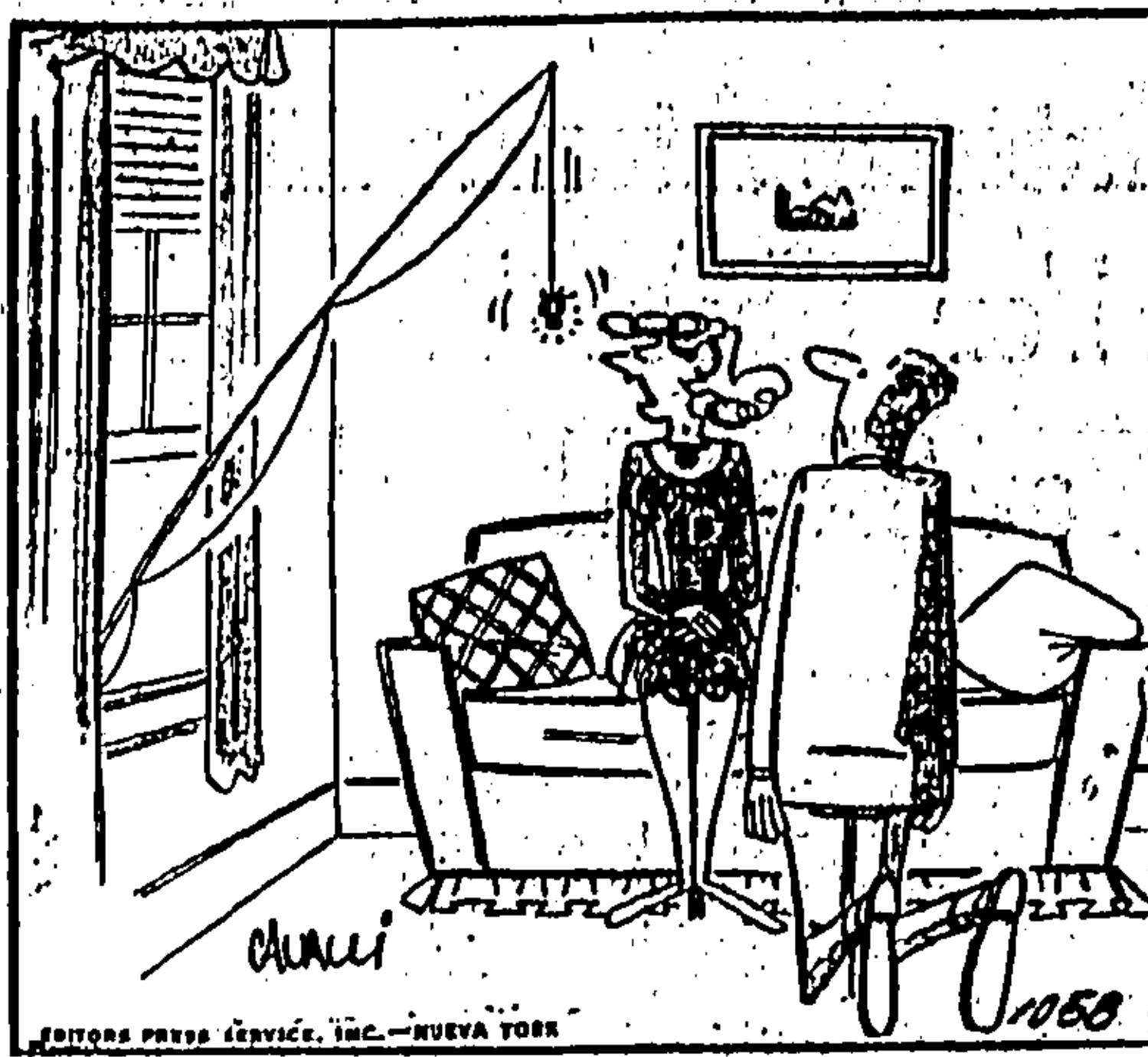
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**THE WEST INDIES • FIJI and TONGA**

**— NEW ZEALAND —**





## • BY THE WAY • by Beachcomber

THERE are some things which no progressive man or woman can do without. A long-felt want has now been satisfied. In New York you can buy an "inter-planetary clock which tells the time on Mars" and, I presume, on the moon.

This will prove of great help to those who are working out the time-tables for trips in space-rockets. Obviously people who land on the moon will not want to stand about in queues waiting for transport. The rockets will need to be able to arrive at the moon at the exact time-table. The only time-table that, at present, we have no means of telling the moon know what time we are to be expected.

### The revolving hat

A FAMOUS West End chatter condemns the revolving hat as an unpardonable, he says that, to begin with, a hat at least two sizes too large would be required, so that it could have free movement round the head. It is a pity that the hat which has become stuck but if the hat was more than two sizes too big, the revolutions would be unbecomingly loud. The hat would wobble. This chatter strikes at the root of the whole hat business with this pertinent question: "What possible use to a wearer or to anyone else could such a hat be? It is surely a sign of a restless age that it can even be suggested that the stationary or fixed hat has served its purpose and outlived its welcome. Does anyone really want a small merry-go-round on his head?"

**Au Rendezvous des Cairs Megie**  
SOMEONE has suggested the publication of a Gastronomic Guide to Great Britain. What fun! A country hotel famous for its hash, prepared by the maitre-chef, don't you know, according to a secret recipe, would be entitled to place itself with some such name as "The specialite de la maison is a choice of two tinned soups of a rich brown colour." If restaurants delight to forego, before the meal, in the Manhattan Bar, where the aluminium furnishings reflect a cheerful glow from a fire of steam logs. A glass of genuine Spanish sherry puts an edge on the appetite.

**All the rage**  
THIS lady whose petticoat fell off at a party in the White House, picked it up and wore it gracefully over her arm for the rest of the evening. When questioned, she said, "It's what they do in Guatemala." That would be enough to start a new fashion. Petticoats worn over the arm would pour out of the workrooms of Jacques and his associates. The more the more notorious of the society clothes-horses would shout for their money's worth.

## YOUR BIRTHDAY... By STELLA

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19

BORN today, you have a hot, fiery temperament which demands activity all the time. You are easily discouraged. You are a person of encouragement, your enthusiasms are great. These are the qualities of emotional expression can wear you out and unless you learn to curb them a little, you may find that your life is a short, tempestuous, albeit exciting one. A little more balance and calm in your life can prove most advantageous.

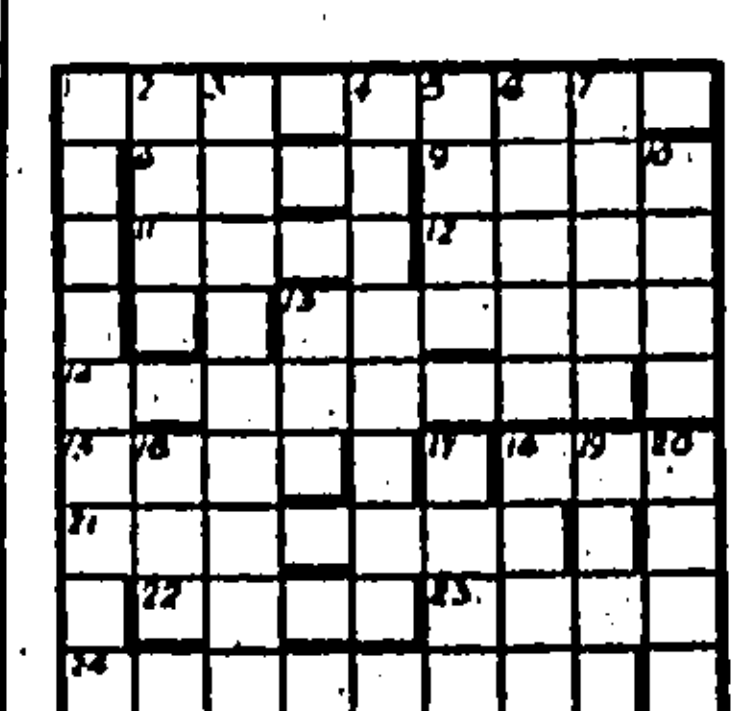
You ambitions are admirable and your personal courage exceptional. You will try anything once—just for the experience. If you are playing the lone wolf in life, then that is all well and good. But if you have others who are dependent upon you, emotionally or financially, it may be less wearing upon everyone if you try to settle down.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20

PIECES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)—Follow a routine at home. If you have a day of odd jobs ahead. Do first things first.  
ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 20)—Take time out today to make your future plans carefully. Revive the mind and flagging spirit.  
TAURUS (Apr. 21-May 20)—Begin a two-day rest period which relaxation and recreation which changes your point of view.  
GEMINI (May 21-June 21)—Perhaps you will have a more congenial week-end if you consult the entire family before making plans.  
CANCER (June 22-July 22)—Divide your time, today, equally between work and play. Relax and let your mind be free.  
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)—You may have brought a problem home from work with you. If so, get it solved efficiently and quickly.  
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)—Attend to personal affairs. Do things that you may have been postponing.  
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)—Decide to have a free and easy week-end, no mulling over as that as you have to get along.  
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)—If the past week has been a busy one, then today is the time to start a real relaxing week-end.  
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)—You may make or receive visits from friends you have not seen in quite a long time.  
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 20)—It is possible that there will be differences of opinion in the family circle. Try to resolve them.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—Use your leisure time to some practical use. Accomplish something important.

## CROSSWORD



1. Of, for and by make it this for the people (10)  
2. Turned-over part of an accent? (4)  
3. Fever from 23 Across? (4)  
4. Start of a busy state (4)  
5. You can do this to a car—and walk in it (4)  
6. The first of the English in this sort of tongue (10)  
7. Fingerprinting found in packets (10)  
8. Currently quiet or deep blue (10)  
9. Back up or perhaps it holds a card (10)  
10. Expertise about a repaired sock (10)  
11. Far, near or middle, it's always the same (10)  
12. All alone (10)  
13. Down  
14. Is gin soda? (anag.) (10)  
15. Last letter and it's made of it (4)  
16. A claim—governmentally (10)  
17. A bit of a test six days (10)  
18. This sort of repetition sounds as if it's a word (10)  
19. Say this in French if you want nothing on the English (10)  
20. A bit of a test six days (10)  
21. Seek a way of supplementing (10)  
22. A bit of a test six days (10)  
23. Your name could be this—more (10)  
24. Take the first of 6, 8, 4 and 9 (10)  
25. It might be the seaman's night (10)  
26. The sea is disturbed at first to make it (10)  
27. A bit of a test six days (10)  
28. A bit of a test six days (10)  
29. A bit of a test six days (10)  
30. A bit of a test six days (10)

## DUMB-BELLS



## WHAT'S HER LINE?

**THERESA C. DUTTEN**  
Re-arrange the letters to spell her occupation.  
(Solution on Page 11)

**SOLUTION**  
1. Of, for and by make it this for the people (10)  
2. Turned-over part of an accent? (4)  
3. Fever from 23 Across? (4)  
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## JACOBY ON BRIDGE

Here Is Standard Way to Play Cards

BY OSWALD JACOBY

THERE'S a standard way of playing the cards. In the sort of hand shown today. When the hand was actually played, South didn't know this standard method, and he lost his vulnerable game as a result. West opened the queen of diamonds, and South won with the ace. He drew three rounds of trumps and then returned to the diamonds. He discovered that West was bound to win two diamond tricks, and a spade pushed through dummy's king gave the defenders two spade tricks. Down one.

South said that he was unlucky that the diamonds were 4-1. He was right. He said that it took more than a bad diamond break to beat him; for he would have made his contract if the ace of spades had been favourably placed. He was right again. But he was wrong in the way he had played the hand, for he should have made his contract despite both of the bad breaks. South made his mistake when he drew three rounds of trumps. If the diamonds break

normally, a second high diamond can be cashed safely even before the trumps are drawn. If the diamonds break badly, it is important to leave some trumps in dummy to cope with the situation. The right line of play is to win the first trick with the ace of diamonds and then to lead only one trump to dummy's king. A small diamond is then returned towards South's hand. If the suit breaks normally, South will take the king of diamonds, give up a diamond, draw trumps, and take at least 10 tricks. When the low diamond is led from dummy, East may either ruff or discard. If East ruffs and returns a club, South wins, draws one more trump with the queen, and then cashes the king of diamonds. This gets by safely, and South can ruff a low diamond with dummy's jack to set up his last diamond. The rest is easy. If East discards when the low diamond is led from dummy, South wins with the king of diamonds and gives up a diamond. He can easily regain the lead, ruff a diamond with dummy's jack of hearts, and take 10 easy tricks.

## CARD SENSE

Q—The bidding has been:  
North East South West  
1 Heart Pass 1 Spade Pass  
2 Hearts Pass ?  
You, South, hold: Spades K-J-7-3-2, Hearts 8-5, Diamonds A-J-9, Clubs A-8-7. What do you do?

A—Bid three no-trump. With 15 points in high cards opposite an opening bid you must make sure of reaching a game contract. This jump to game shows your strength, your balanced distribution, and your stoppers in the unbid suits.

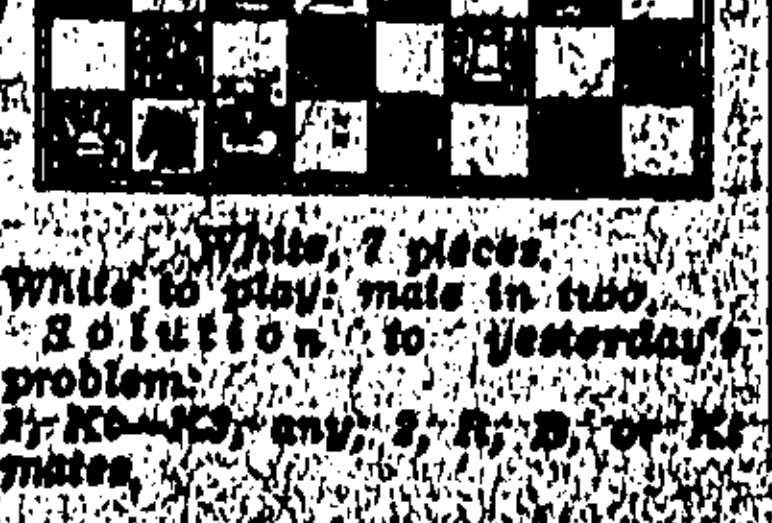
## TODAY'S QUESTION

The bidding is the same as in the question just answered. You South, hold: Spades K-J-7-3-2, Hearts 8-5, Diamonds K-7-6-4, Clubs 8-3. What do you do?

Answer Tomorrow

## CHESS PROBLEM

By ARTHUR A. PAUL  
Black, 8 pieces.



White, 7 pieces.  
Solution to yesterday's problem.  
1. K-K4, 2. N-N3, 3. B-B4, 4. K-K4, 5. N-N3, 6. B-B4, 7. K-K4, 8. N-N3, 9. B-B4, 10. K-K4, 11. N-N3, 12. B-B4, 13. K-K4, 14. N-N3, 15. B-B4, 16. K-K4, 17. N-N3, 18. B-B4, 19. K-K4, 20. N-N3, 21. B-B4, 22. K-K4, 23. N-N3, 24. B-B4, 25. K-K4, 26. N-N3, 27. B-B4, 28. K-K4, 29. N-N3, 30. B-B4, 31. K-K4, 32. N-N3, 33. B-B4, 34. K-K4, 35. N-N3, 36. B-B4, 37. K-K4, 38. N-N3, 39. B-B4, 40. K-K4, 41. N-N3, 42. B-B4, 43. K-K4, 44. N-N3, 45. B-B4, 46. K-K4, 47. N-N3, 48. B-B4, 49. K-K4, 50. N-N3, 51. B-B4, 52. K-K4, 53. N-N3, 54. B-B4, 55. K-K4, 56. N-N3, 57. B-B4, 58. K-K4, 59. N-N3, 60. B-B4, 61. K-K4, 62. N-N3, 63. B-B4, 64. K-K4, 65. N-N3, 66. B-B4, 67. K-K4, 68. N-N3, 69. B-B4, 70. K-K4, 71. N-N3, 72. B-B4, 73. K-K4, 74. N-N3, 75. B-B4, 76. K-K4, 77. N-N3, 78. B-B4, 79. K-K4, 80. N-N3, 81. B-B4, 82. K-K4, 83. N-N3, 84. B-B4, 85. K-K4, 86. N-N3, 87. B-B4, 88. K-K4, 89. N-N3, 90. B-B4, 91. K-K4, 92. N-N3, 93. B-B4, 94. K-K4, 95. N-N3, 96. B-B4, 97. K-K4, 98. N-N3, 99. B-B4, 100. K-K4, 101. 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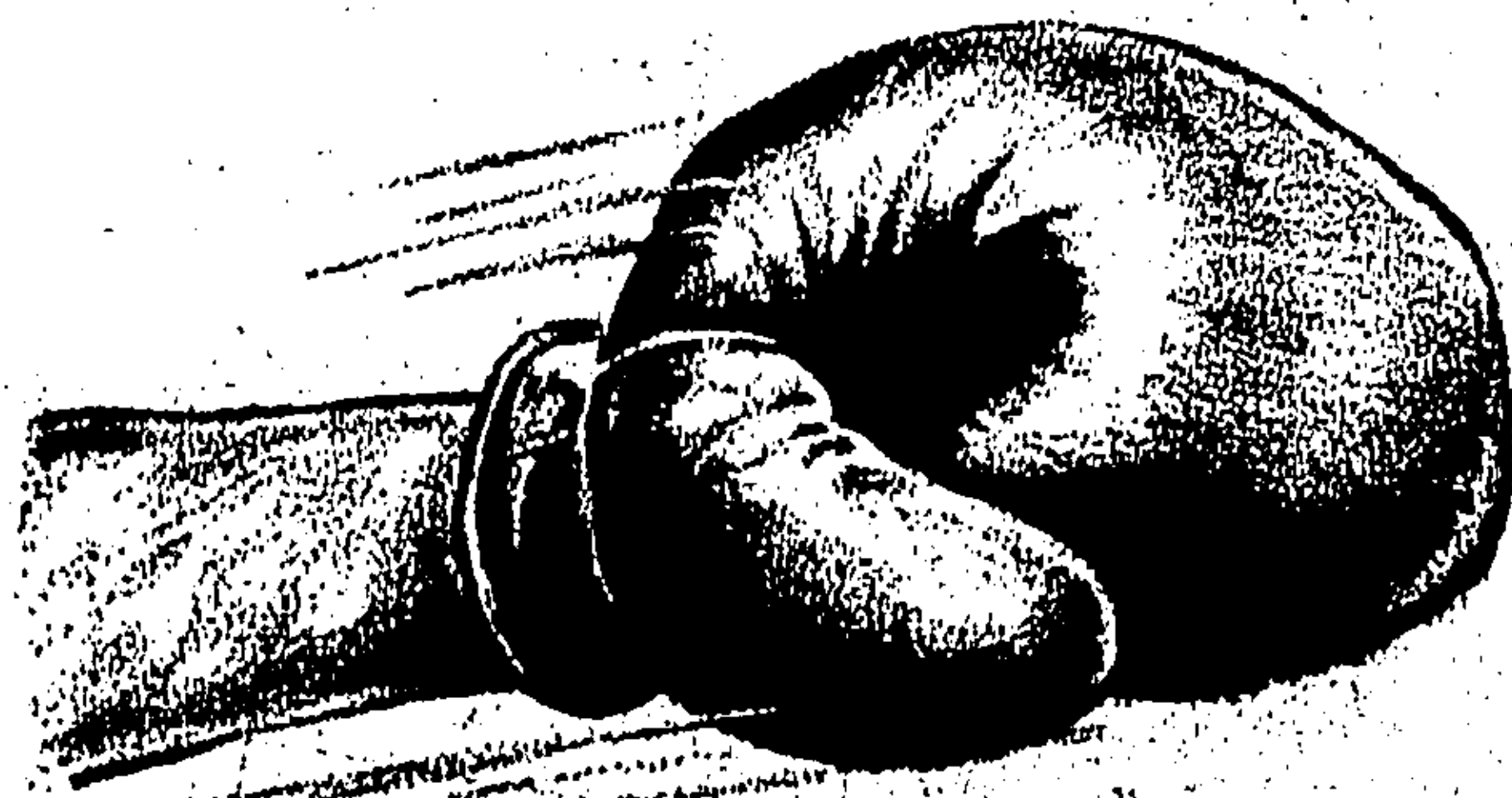
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ICC (Ignition Control Compound) . . . . . the new additive perfected by Ethyl Corporation, producers of Anti-Knock Tetraethyl Lead introduced 32 years ago, is now incorporated in CALTEX IC-PLUS Gasoline. This additive is the newest achievement of Ethyl Laboratories and is designed to prevent preignition and spark plug fouling.

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## CALTEX IC-PLUS

*Packs more Punch*

# CALTEX



(CHINA)

# LTD.



## Frederick Ellis Looks At A CITY WHERE DESPAIR HAS NO ADDRESS

NEW YORK. I HAVE just been reading 14 pages of jobs vacant in the New York Times.

Column after column of jobs: salesmen-to-scientists, office boys-to-boss jobs, Wages of £17 10s. for the office boy to £10,500 a year for a sales director.

Does that sound like a depression? Does that look as though American industry is about to totter?

You will find few signs of depression in New York, except the threat to raise the price of a cup of coffee from 8d. to 10d. And there is little talk of depression either. True, nobody expects 1954 to be the super-fatted boom of 1953. But there is no despair.

Cracked a Wall Street operator: "If you ask anybody if a depression is coming you might just as well ask if he is a Democrat or a Republican."

Only the Democrats, their party out of power after 20 years, are talking depression. And they hope that if they talk long enough and loud enough it will carry them back to office.

### TWO BAROMETERS

NEW YORK has two depression barometers—the Stock Market and the night clubs like the swill El Morocco and the Stork Club. Neither does well with a depression round the corner. Wall Street is on the up and up, and the El Morocco, where a good steak costs 35s., is turning customers away every night.

And there are other signs. On Park Avenue, the Bond Street of New York, the demolition squads are tearing down a 25-story block of flats to make way for an office skyscraper. Yet the flats were built only 25 years ago. But offices earn more money, so down with the flats.

Just across the way, in the lush Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, the vast General Motors Corporation (Chevrolet, Buick, Cadillac) is holding a show of 1954 models. Car-crazy Americans storm the hotel all day to get a look at the cars. The queue goes round the block and inside it like a Rugby scrum.

You can get a car for 2,500 upwards. And you get a lot of car for that.

New York's streets are choked with cars—big, chromium plated, dazzling models. Taxicabs of violent hues screech up the wide streets, making Fifth Avenue a sort of Silverstone. You really believe that every American owns a car.

And the quickest lesson any Christopher Columbus learns is not to cross the road until the traffic lights halt this tearing stream of cars.

But, oh, the cost of living! Wages may seem high by British pay packets, but the price of life is even higher.

In my modest hotel I can get a bacon-and-egg breakfast for 12s. 6d. I get the same thing for 6s. 6d. round at the drug store—food on the right, toothpaste on the left.

That is the yardstick of prices. Everything else is equally dear. So no wonder Americans holidaying in Britain think things are cheap.

### ONE TOPIC

HERE they talk of only one thing—Communism. Although Moscow is thousands of miles away from New York, I almost expect to run into Malenkov on ritzy Park Avenue. And with snow on his boots. For the temperatures are often down to 22 degrees below freezing point.

You cannot talk with anyone in this city for more than a few minutes before they get on to Communism.

Brokers, business men, cab-drivers, soda jerkers (they pour out the soft drinks), rich men, poor men—they all have a deadly dread of the Commies. They talk as though the country is overrun with Reds under the beds, Reds on the brain.

I am no politician, but old Joe McCarthy, the nation's chief Red-hunter, is in the national hero class among these anti-Reds in New York.

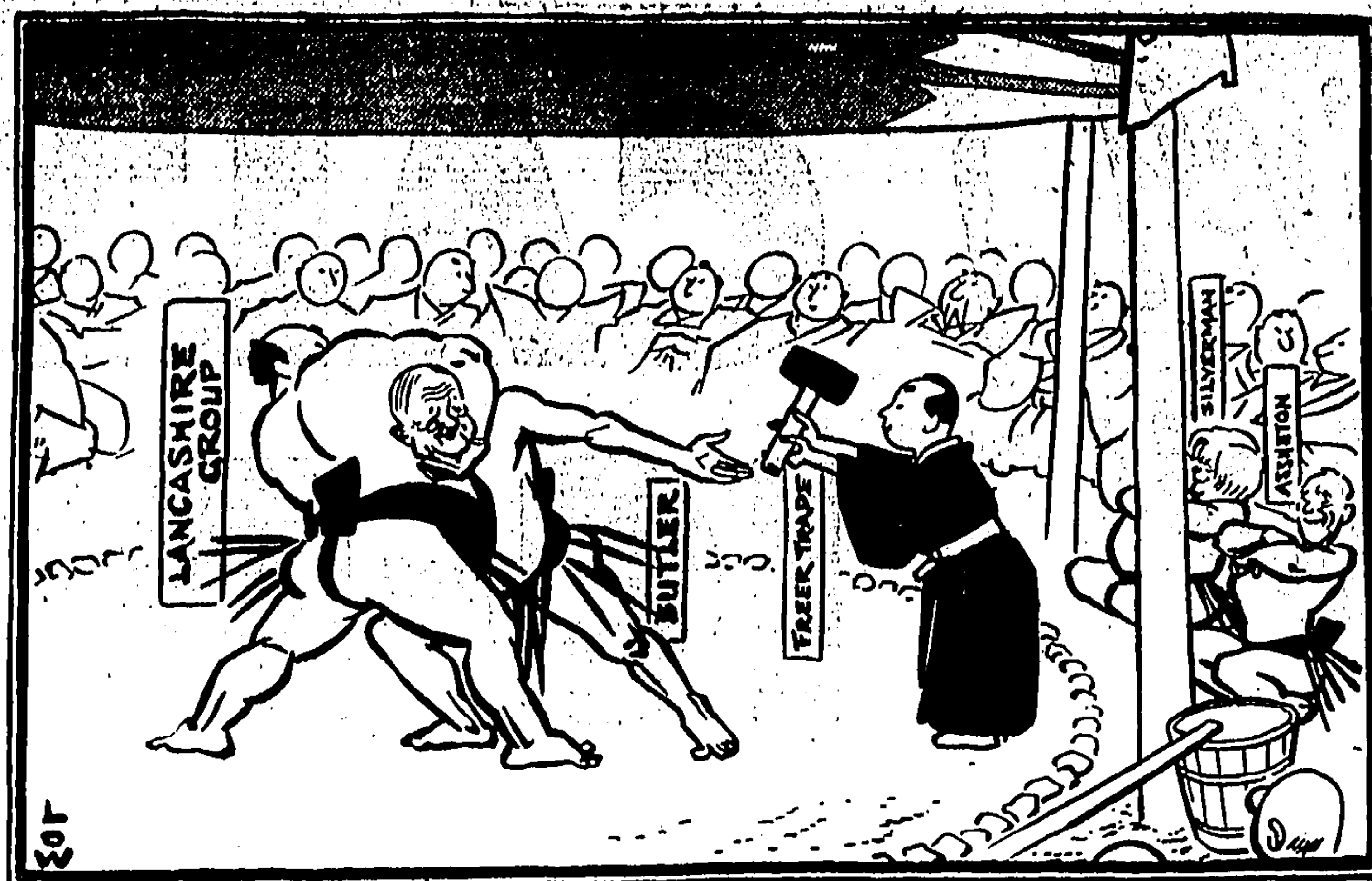
### 'SHELTER END'

THERE is an hysteria about the town, symbolised by the startling yellow air-raid shelter signs familiar in wartime Britain.

Every office block, every hotel, has its "shelter end." But I should hate to be in the alleged shelter, say, up on the 37th floor of any skyscraper when an old-fashioned block-buster fell, let alone an atom bomb.

You can trace all this hysteria back to Pearl Harbour. Then the Japs caught the Americans "with their pants down." A rich banker said: "You don't make the same mistake twice—you just have to be sure." Sure of everything but themselves.

WEATHER NOTE.—The temperature in New York has been so low that the Arctic ice-breaker vessel Westwind keeps the shipping lanes clear in New York's Hudson River.



JAPANESE WRESTLING

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## A NIGHT OUT TO RED MUSIC

BERLIN. WE are off to sample the joys of night life in the Democratic Sector of Greater Berlin, which is what the Russians prefer to call their chunk of the former German capital.

But right at the outset we encounter a hitch. Four West German taxi-drivers in a row stoutly refuse to consider the project.

In vain we assure them that for the duration of the Foreign Ministers' conference everyone in the Eastern sector is all smiles. They say no—the risk of having their taxicabs confiscated is too big.

At last we find a willing driver and, after a 20-minute journey, here we are at the neon-lighted Budapest Restaurant in the middle of Stalin Avenue. The place is packed.

Except for a sprinkling of smartly turned-out Red Army officers, who are dining quietly, the standard of dress—especially among the women—is not stimulating.

The women have dumpy, shapeless figures, and their clothes look as if they are home made. One or two are wearing a sketchy semblance of evening dress, but they manage to look in this finery as if they are taking part in a Christmas charade. The whole scene is of the greatest respectability and unquenchable provincialism.

### MIXTURE

A HUNGARIAN gypsy orchestra is playing with great abandon. Rather unexpectedly it mingles nostalgic waltz tunes of the "imperial" era with such capitalistic favourites as "Whispering."

We offer to share a table with another couple, a middle-aged man and wife. After we have ordered our caviar, steaks, and Hungarian champagne, the man engages us in talk, speaking passable English.

He gives it as his opinion, and in a loud voice too, that "There aren't many real Communists here in Eastern Germany, Socialists, yes. Communists, no. We don't like the Reds and if we ever get a chance to prove it there will be no mistake made."

This seems rather odd as he doesn't lower his voice and there is no looking over his shoulder as he speaks.

## RENE MacCOLL samples cafe society behind That Curtain

Presently he pays his bill, wishes us goodnight, and leaves with his wife.

Their places are instantly taken by a young couple who entwined their arms round each other's neck, gaze wordlessly into each other's eyes, and occasionally sip red Georgian wine.

### FREEZING

LET'S leave them to it, and, passing on the stairs a big oil painting of Stalingrad being rebuilt, make our way to a night club.

Although the temperature is far below freezing, there is a group of shivering citizens waiting patiently in the street outside the night club, which has got the house-full notice up.

But our taxi man mutters "Auslander" (foreigner) to the uniformed chucker-out, who lets us slip inside—and plaintive cries from those who have been waiting. The interior resembles a dank and gloomy barn. To reach the dance room you walk through a shabby, concrete tunnel, for all the world like an underground passage at a disused sports stadium.

Here the customers are much younger. The East German

equivalent of the bobbysoxer sits drinking wine through a straw.

The band is indistinguishable from a thousand bands in a thousand dance palaces the world over—puce dinner jackets, crimson bow-ties, false lapel ornaments made of feathers, and in front of each instrumentalist a cardboard plaque displaying the band's name—Fred's.

A heavily-built man wearing the sort of suit favoured by Chicago mobsters in the 1920's approaches with a rather threatening air and taps me on the shoulder. How now? A challenge? But no—all he wants is to inform me politely that there is whitewash on my sleeve.

### MERRYMAKING

WE have a chat. He tells me that he is a "communist" and assures me that he wishes American well. I inform him that I am English, not American, at which he says that he likes England too. "Politest," he says. "Ah, there is a time and place for everything, everything. Now is the time for merry-making." And over to the crowded bar we go together for a glass of

Chinese brandy that brings the tears to my eyes.

Now the floor is clear and a fancy dress competition is in progress. The participants—all girls—walk slowly round the tables and every now and then one of the watching crowd hands his vote slip to the girl who has captured his fancy.

FLASHBACK TO THE WESTERN SECTOR. Running one of Berlin's best restaurants (he started it in 1920) is Edwin Roesch, who from 1903 to 1911 managed an hotel on the site of the present Unilever House at Blackfriars Bridge.

His Berlin visitors' book, saved from looting and blitz, has page after page of history among its signatures.

You can see the signature of the notorious Ernst Roehm,

ROEHM ... died 1934. "purged" by Hitler in 1934. And under it, Himmler's name—

HIMMLER ... died 1945. and you know what happened to him.

Says Mr Roesch today: "They were a nondescript lot, those Nazis. They preferred beer to wine."

## WHO WILL THE NEXT POPE BE?

A Cardinal from Stalin's home might be chosen....But if a prophecy came true, there would be a sailor Pope.

BY MICHAEL DERRICK

W HETHER the Pope is in good health or bad, there is always speculation about who his successor will be.

Today Roman Catholics everywhere are praying for the full return to health of Pius XII. But the gossips of Rome make and compare lists of those Cardinals whom they judge to be papable, or suitable candidates for election.

One of the Cardinals now living in Rome was born in Soviet territory—in Georgia, where Stalin was born—and there are some who think that he may be chosen to succeed to the throne of St Peter.

He is Gregory Petr XV, Cardinal Agagian, Armenian Patriarch of Cilicia. Still under sixty, the bearded Cardinal is a magnificent figure who could occupy the papal throne with impressive dignity.

More probable, however, is the choice of yet another Italian Pope to succeed Pius XII. Very few seriously think it will be an American.

Many speak of the Cardinal of Bologna, Giacomo Cardinal Lercaro. He is sometimes called the Don Camillo of the Sacred College, because of his extraordinary handling of relations with the Communist mayor of that city.

Others think of Giuseppe Cardinal Siri, Archbishop of Genoa. At 47 Cardinal Siri is the youngest member of the Sacred College and likely, say some, to be not the next Pope but the next but one.

But the more credulous, if they want to speculate about the identity of the next Pope, turn to a curious document known as the Prophecy of St Malachy. This is a long series of Latin mottoes, said to describe each Pope from Celestine II in the middle of the 12th century until the end of the world.

If this document is accepted as authentic and reliable prophecy, the present Pope will have only six successors. In other words, the world may be expected to come to an end in about 100 years' time. But no one need start worrying for his grand-children, because the Catholic Church does not attach any importance to the prophecies of St Malachy, well known as they have been for three and a half centuries.

For the present Pope, Pius XII, the motto given in St

Malachy's Prophecy is "Pastor Angelicus," the Angelic Shepherd, and most of those who have seen him will say that the title fits him well.

The successor of the present Pope, according to this catalogue, is to be "Pastor et Navita"—a Shepherd and a Sailor. Here is a clue that limits the choice considerably.

Cardinal Griffin, the Archbishop of Westminster, served in the Royal Naval Air Service during the 1914 war, before he went to study for the priesthood; although it may be thought doubtful whether this justifies his description as a sailor. Cardinal Gilroy, now Archbishop of Sydney, Australia, was a sailor who served as a naval wireless operator at Gallipoli.

But simply the word "Sailor" is simply meant to show that the new Pope will have to cross the seas, and will come from the other side of the ocean. Perhaps he will be one of the unprecedentedly large number of Cardinals at present to be found in Latin America.

Some of the mottoes in St Malachy's Prophecy have proved plausible. The one for Benedict XV, who was Pope through the years of the 1914 war and the Bolshevik Revolution, was "Religio Populorum"—Religion Laid Waste—a prophecy made true by Lenin.

Pius VI, whom Napoleon's troops kidnapped and carried off to France, was "Perigrinus Apostolicus," an Apostolic Wanderer. Pius IX, who was Pope when the House of Savoy took the Papal States and then the city of Rome from the papacy, had the motto "Crux de cruce," a cross from the cross—and the emblem of the House of Savoy was a cross.

But despite such coincidences, it has been fairly conclusively shown that the prophecies of St Malachy are a forgery, made at the end of the sixteenth century in an attempt to secure the election to the papacy of a particular Cardinal for whom an obviously suitable motto was inserted at the appropriate place in the series.

St Malachy, whose name was thus taken in vain, was Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of Ireland in the twelfth century. He introduced the Cistercian Order to Ireland, where it flourishes to this day, and died in the arms of St Bernard, who was the virtual founder of that Order. But St Bernard made no reference to the supposed prophecy of St Malachy, who wrote the life of St Malachy,

## Alexander The Great Had Ices In His "NAAFI"

By J. W. TAYLOR

SALES of ice-cream and of refrigerators for preserving food have steadily increased in the last few years, perpetuating a usage that has an age-long history. So long, in fact, that historians are not quite certain who first made ice-cream. They have decided it was not the British, nor the Americans, nor the Italians, although they suspect that the latter brought their knowledge of ice-cream making to England a hundred years ago.

### Thirsty Taste

Historians have it that over two thousand years ago Alexander the Great was partial to the dish during his many soldiering campaigns, and what he then equivalent to the modern "NAAFI" (National Army and Air Force Institute) was constructed in St James' Park, London, in 1859. The "NAAFI" was the first of its kind, and it was built on the site of many English country houses. Here he was stored for preservation, and it was used for making ice-cream.

of the camp stores, so Alexander dispatched hundreds of slaves to climb the neighbouring mountains and bring back cooling snow from the summits, with which to freeze a mixture of honey and fruit juice for the refreshment of all. These early "ices" were said to be very tasty.

The Royal Charles's of England were rather partial to the frozen "family brick," as it were. Charles I gave his French chef, Gervais Tassin, a pension of £20 as a reward for an ice-cream recipe, on condition that he keep the details a secret. After the unfortunate King's execution, Tassin is said to have returned to Paris and sold the recipe. It was for multi-coloured ice-cream, the recipe being bought by a Neapolitan café owner—hence "Neapolitan" ice.

A seventeenth-century equivalent of the modern household refrigerator was introduced by Charles II when he had an "ice house" constructed in St James' Park. At first it was used for domestic "ices" and "ice pits" were built on the estate of many English country houses. Here he was stored for preservation, and it was used for making ice-cream.

fact that liquid ammonia below "boil" at a temperature below the freezing point of water and was an invention of the nineteenth century. Up till 1873, when Faraday, the scientist, made this great discovery, the commonest method of freezing food entailed the use of natural ice.

Marco Polo, the famous 13th century Venetian explorer, found frozen milk being sold from barrows in the streets of Chinese cities. His memoirs record that this delicacy had been known in China for a thousand years. Marco took the recipe back with him to Venice, and thus did the Italians have their first taste of a product they were later to develop with such success.

### French Court

Historians would be wary to deny the suggestion that the French introduced ice-cream to England, although they will hold any confirmation, but it is fact that in 1699 when Catherine de Medici's daughter, Marie Antoinette, became the bride of Henri, Duke of Orléans, the French court, where many French dishes were introduced, was the first to popularise ice-cream in England, where it was greatly enjoyed.

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## DEEP IN THE JUNGLE THE MAYAS PRAY

From Frank Litton

San Antonio, British Honduras. DEEP in the jungle, incense tapers are burning before the secret, overgrown temples of the ancient Mayas. And the primitive, little brown-skinned Maya Indians of today are praying to their gods.

They hope that their humble tributes will ward off the danger of a People's United Party victory in the forthcoming elections — which could sway the fate of British Honduras. For the powerful PUP wants to turn British Honduras into a sister republic of adjoining Guatemala.

The little men — they are less than five feet tall — periodically leave their homes, their sweet corn patches, their rice fields in charge of the women.

Beforehand, they tell them they are going to improve the aid of "the old ones." These, they sometimes evasively assure white missionaries, are their forefathers who once erected the temples in the age of the great Maya civilisation — although missionaries fear that "the old ones" are the gods who once demanded human sacrifice.

### AGITATORS

The Mayas are deeply fearful of the paid pro-Guatemalan agitators sent to their villages, where the wattle-framed huts with palm-thatched roofs cluster like beehives round the conical hills.

They are afraid they will again experience a hated rule, linking them with Spanish Guatemala.

So they set off, carrying bows and poisoned arrows to guard them from the jaguars, and pass like shadows along the secret, orchid-bordered tracks to the temples.

There, before the strangely-carved stone pyramids, they hold their ceremonies in the shade of bronzed-leaf mahogany trees.

They burn the incense tapers made of lengths of rope soaked in cedar gum. Skipped to the wind, the incense, in wide, swirling yellow plumes, they

perform the ancient voodoo dances in the hope that the "old ones" will intervene to guard them. To watch them are only vivid tropical birds — brilliant macaws, rainbow-hued turkeys, grey-speckled vultures.

There runs only a one-way track from the village of San Antonio which, like all the Mayan settlements, lies within a few miles of the Guatemalan frontier.

### JUSTICE

The track leads west to the coast, where British justice rules. It once ran eastwards, too, into Guatemala. But the Mayas in the jungle swallow that track and they would fight to death any attempt to reopen it.

Modesta, wife of the former chief of San Antonio, explained to me why the menfolk seek the aid of the "old ones".

Wearing her dirndl-styled white skirt and an off-the-shoulder white blouse decorated with Mayan symbolic embroidery, she left her five little children for a moment to tell me:

"Once my people were thick as the sweet corn in this land, but the Spaniards came and killed us and drove us out, and the jungle overran our temples."

"Afterwards the British came and we stayed back, though today there are only ten thousand of us living along the frontier. My grandfather came back here seventy years ago to avoid the 'free labour' under those Spanish men in Guatemala across the border. We want to remain in free freedom under Britain's rule."

Then she went back to swing, with a bare foot, the hammock which cradled her sleeping baby.

From Lord Ismay in Paris comes new light on the question that has the world guessing

## WINSTON RETIRE? WHY, HE WON'T EVEN LET ME DO THAT!

### SAM WHITE'S PARIS NEWSLETTER

PARIS. WHAT is all this about the possibility of Sir Winston Churchill retiring? Tell that to General Lord "Pug" Ismay, one of Churchill's closest friends and at present Secretary-General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation.

"Why," says Ismay, "he won't even let me retire, least of all himself."

Ismay, who loathes his exile in Paris, has been pleading with Sir Winston for more than a year to allow him to retire. His ambition is to go back to his farm. To Ismay's entreaties, Sir Winston has a stock set of replies: "Pug" — this is a simulated catch in his voice — "you can't do this to me!" Or, (this is the latest one), "Pug, if you leave NATO I will conscript you into the Cabinet."

Ismay hoped he would be allowed to resign next April when his two-year term is up. Instead he finds himself committed to staying on till the end of the year. Since Ismay is determined to leave, then, the British Cabinet are already considering his possible successor.

The Americans would like the job to go to another Briton; so would Sir Winston. An approach was made to Sir Oliver Franks, formerly Ambassador in Washington, but he refused the post. Now a further approach will be made to Sir Alexander Cadogan, who was formerly Foreign Secretary.

Another candidate is Canada's Foreign Minister Mr. Lester Pearson. But his Prime Minister, Mr. St. Laurent, is reluctant to release him.

Meanwhile Lord Ismay dreams of his farm. But his dreams are interrupted by occasional nightmares: What if a suitable successor cannot be found and he finds himself once again the victim of Sir Winston's blandishments?

### DESIGNER'S PARTY

IN a week when Paris dress designers are feverishly putting the finishing touches to their spring collections one of them, the fashionable, hazel-eyed Jacques Fath, took time off to throw a dinner party.

Like all his parties it had a touch of fantasy. This one was filmed in Cinema. Almost all the guests were titled and the women wore, of course, all Fath's latest designs. More than that — they were the women who, by being seen at his collections and by wearing his clothes, gave him his earliest start as a fashionable designer. Among them: Princess Troubetzkoy, the beautiful Princess d'Artois, the Princess de Polignac, and the Princess de Bourbon.

At the party, Fath, who is a man of a young man's face and a carefully sun-tanned complexion, spent an hour a day under a tanning lamp. Important asset in his business is his blonde, beautiful wife, Genevieve, whom he married shortly after he opened his first dressmaking establishment. She is a most valuable model and a striking advertisement for his clothes.

She throws light on a problem: If a woman had unlimited access to beautiful clothes how much would she need? Genevieve makes do with 65 suits, coats and dresses a year worth at Fath's current prices about £10,000.

MAN has just begun to look for uranium. Only a few years ago it was an unimportant metal used almost exclusively as a ceramic colouring agent. No one cared much about it. Today it is the essential feed material for the great atomic energy plants of America and other countries. It is the base of the atomic energy pyramid and — it is hard to find.

It is almost as though some wise Providence, distrustful of man's wisdom, had hidden it. For example, uranium from the famed Shinkolobwe Mine in the Belgian Congo must travel hundreds of miles before it reaches a seaport, and must then make a much longer ocean journey before it reaches the United States. It was hidden — at least, not discovered — until 1915.

Similarly, uranium from Canada's Great Bear Lake must travel fifteen hundred miles from its source — 20 miles from the Arctic Circle — before it reached a railroad, and it can make this journey through icy waters but a few months of the year. Providence kept the secret of this deposit until 1930.

### Boiling Up

Such uranium as has been found in the United States is deposited for the most part in the sandstone of the Colorado plateau. Far back in geological history, this uranium was probably brought to the surface by volcanic action or the boiling up of hot ashes and liquids from the restless depths of the earth. Over the ages, many of the rocks in which the uranium was deposited have been worn away, and much of the uranium itself has been dissipated. Some of it, however, by a mechanism not thoroughly understood, has been concentrated in tiny, inaccessible pockets in the desert sandstone.

The first uranium was found on the plateau at the turn of the century, but an intensive search is still going on to discover all the places where the pocket deposits have been hidden away.

One could hardly expect prospectors to burn up much energy or bankers to dig very deeply into their pockets simply to locate a mineral that up to World War II was used mainly as a colouring agent for porcelain and stained glass — and they did. But in 1898 something happened that spurred the search for uranium deposits. Radium was discovered by Mme Curie in Paris. The connection between uranium and radium is that uranium always contains an infinitesimal amount of radium — about one part in three million — and, with radium selling at \$400,000 per gram, the search in all parts of the world was frantic.

## What Makes An Atom Bomb

The first of a revealing series of articles by  
**GORDON DEAN**

Chairman, U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, 1950-1953

One of the richest uranium-radium deposits was discovered at Joachimsthal, in Bohemia. The Joachimsthal area has a colourful past. It also has an active present and future, for it is today under the control of the Russians.

In both Saxony, which is today a part of Russian Germany, and Bohemia, which is today a part of Russian Czechoslovakia, there is an extremely rich mineral region. It is located in Erzgebirge range, which separates the two countries. The region has been mined since the latter part of the twelfth century.

Three hundred years later the mines of Joachimsthal turned up a little-known mineral, pitchblende, in heavy blue-black veins containing uranium. Uranium had come into demand because of its use as a colouring agent. The mines flourished. With the discovery of radium at the turn of the last century, international attention was again focused on the mines, which for a period enjoyed a world monopoly in that elusive and extremely costly element.

Today some of the most productive pitchblende mines in the fabulous Erzgebirge range are located at Joachimsthal. Although the richest ore was probably taken out long ago, thousands of slave labourers are today feverishly scratching away in the lower levels, extracting the remaining ore to feed the Russian atomic effort. Additional thousands are busy in the many mines of Saxony, where there is an apparently plentiful supply of lower-grade ore.

### Inaccessible

Unfortunately, the United States is a have-not nation when it comes to pitchblende. Only in certain isolated areas has it been found, and the amounts have been small. But uranium does occur in the United States, where it appears usually in an ore known as carnotite.

When we speak of the Colorado plateau we mean an area of approximately 130,000 square miles located in Eastern Utah, northwestern New Mexico, northeastern Arizona, and Colorado west of the Rocky Mountains. It is an erosion-starved land of many colours, a land of sharp-walled mesas, deep canyons, and little water. Roads are few, steep and rocky. The uranium-bearing ore is found most frequently in places that are most inaccessible — the canyon walls near the tops of the mesas.

It is here that prospectors tap away with hand picks and await anxiously the click of the Geiger counter. And when the click comes, it is here that the first exploratory holes are dug back in the sandstone layers of the tableland. An ore body is considered large if it

contains a few thousand tons — not tons of uranium but tons of ore, for the ore in such pockets contains only about three to ten pounds of uranium to each ton of ore.

This seems a hard way to find uranium, and fortunately there is another. This involves boring down from the mesa top with diamond drills. In this way one can take samplings of the ore bodies that slant back into the mesas from the walls. The extreme irregularity of the deposits and the risks involved in exploring for lower-grade ores, however, make extensive drilling impossible for other than large companies and government agencies.

### Hard Way

In 1948, therefore, the Atomic Energy Commission, with the assistance of the U.S. Geological Survey, commenced a systematic diamond-drilling programme, guided by expert government geologists. The drilling is actually performed by private companies working under contract to the government on the basis of so many dollars per foot. Since the cost would be prohibitive if one were to drill systematically the whole vast area of the Colorado plateau, emphasis has been placed on the mineral belt in the southwestern part of the State of Colorado.

But even diamond drilling is a hard way to find ore. One of the greatest problems connected with prospecting on the plateau, whether by "sour-dough" or diamond-drilling methods, is water. In the spring, water is readily available, but in the late summer and autumn it becomes scarce, and hauls of eight to ten miles are common. Is there no easier way to find uranium?

A airborne radioactivity-detection equipment, mounted on helicopters and light aircraft, is being used to develop a simple, fast way of covering this vast area, and the results have been encouraging. But even this process presents problems. Since these instruments, known as scintillometers, which are more sensitive than Geiger counters, are designed to pick up gamma radiation from uranium deposits and since the intensity of these radiations decreases to fifty percent at about four hundred feet, it means that the planes must fly low in the neighbourhood of five hundred feet.

### Ore Bodies

Better results are obtained by flying at even a lower altitude, but flying alone the canyon walls through tricky air currents is at best a hazardous business. More sensitive scintillometers, however, are being perfected which will remove some of the hazards of aerial survey.

Once a discovery is made, the miner must have a place to sell his ore within hauling distance of his mines, and he must be able to sell it at a price that will give him a profit. As ore bodies are discovered, the Atomic Energy Commission must therefore encourage private industry to erect ore-buying stations and processing plants. There are already fifteen points scattered throughout the plateau where ore can be delivered and sold, and the Commission publishes the guaranteed prices paid for delivered to any of these stations.

In recent years the known limits of the mineral belt of the Colorado plateau have been widened. In 1951, for example, new discovery was made at Grants, New Mexico, close to the right-of-way of the Santa Fe Railroad and in full view of a well-travelled highway.

Other interesting finds have been made in states as far removed from the old Colorado mineral belt as North Dakota. One discovery follows another. All such discoveries will not be made by scintillometers carried in aeroplanes. They will not all be found by diamond drilling. Some will be found by persons who have not had the benefit of a degree in engineering or experience in prospecting for minerals.

### TOTTING THEM UP

STATISTICIANS in Paris are occupying themselves with the steady diminution of the exiled Sultan of Morocco's entourage as he has moved from one place of exile to another. When he left North Africa last year he had with him 100 concubines and three wives. Eight concubines were left behind, and the Sultan has now reduced his entourage to two wives.

At the same time, the Sultan's entourage has been reduced to two wives.

China, the Congo, the Colorado plateau, and South Africa; and in the process of getting it, we might have to dig up a substantial chunk of Florida real estate. As it is now, we are getting small quantities of uranium from phosphate rock as a by-product of fertilizer production. In a final emergency we could process the uranium which occurs as a very minor constituent in the vast deposits of the so-called "Chattanooga shales" in Tennessee, West Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, and Alabama, but the cost would be very great, even greater than that of working the phosphate deposits.

### No Chances

Long before we are backed into such a corner our stockpile of atomic weapons will be great enough to deter any reasonable would-be aggressor who knows or suspects the facts. But we cannot assume that a would-be aggressor will be reasonable. Therefore, we can take no chances. We must be prepared with the necessary scientific knowledge to enter upon the costly venture of developing the very low-grade ore if it becomes necessary. We are so prepared.

If one is to think upon the problem of getting uranium, he must, for any understanding of it at all, have in his mind's eye many pictures. He must, for example, be able to picture Shinkolobwe, deep in the brushland of southeastern Katanga Province in the Congo. He must picture a great open gash in the earth which represents the world's richest uranium mine. He must know also that there are people behind such an operation, courageous and friendly men like Edgar Sengler of the Union Miniere, men who deal in "blue chips" but who have yet never haggled when the defence of the Western World was the issue.

### Elusive Metal

He must be able to picture barges, coursing their way south from the Arctic Circle, carrying the ore of the Great Bear Lake, and in so doing he must see that ore being lifted from those barges, trucked across portages to the next waterway, there again to be re-loaded.

To have any appreciation at all of the problems involved in the search for this elusive metal, he must be able somehow to picture a grizzled prospector in the lonely reaches of the Colorado plateau tapping away at an outcropping somewhere high on a mesa; Congressmen urging on behalf of the miners that the precious rocky roads of the region be improved so that they may get their ore to market; miners asserting that the procedure for assaying their samples is unfair; colleges insisting that their scientists be given a grant to work on the problem of extracting uranium from low-grade ore; geologists leaving the Commission's employ when appropriations are cut; diamond drillers insisting that with inflation the price per foot of drilling must be increased; Indians of the Navajo tribe meeting in sober council to work out some arrangement whereby this new brightly discovered commodity, uranium, would not be sold for a mess of pottage.

### Eyes Open

Wherever members of the Commission have travelled in foreign lands we have preached the gospel that the security of the Western World may depend upon such a simple thing as people keeping their eyes open. Every American, old man looking for "the gold" in a foreign jungle is entitled in his duty to his country if he hasn't at least mastered the basic information on the geology of uranium.

And the same applies to every mountain climber, every big game hunter and for that matter every butterfly collector. If the United States is to possess atomic superiority so overwhelming that no aggressor would dare provoke a conflict, if we are to be able to exterminate any aggressor so foolish as to start a war, we must remember that such dictators as Hitler, Mussolini, and Tojo were foolish to this extent: It becomes clear that we cannot rely solely on the so-called "rich" deposits. We must seek uranium where it can be mined economically.

### Low Content

In Florida and in the Northwest there are extensive deposits of phosphate rock. These contain uranium. The uranium content is very low, but the enormous tonnage of rock available contains important quantities of uranium and other valuable materials. In the phosphate, which is used in the manufacture of fertilizer and certain chemicals, overlying these deposits in Florida is a type of soil called "the beach sand" which contains small quantities of uranium. It is this "beach sand" which we have to supply all the needs of the atomic energy programme. But there will be more on this in the chapter on "The International Atom."

Meanwhile, let us see what happens to the ore after it is mined, and passes "into" the hands of the Atomic Energy Commission.

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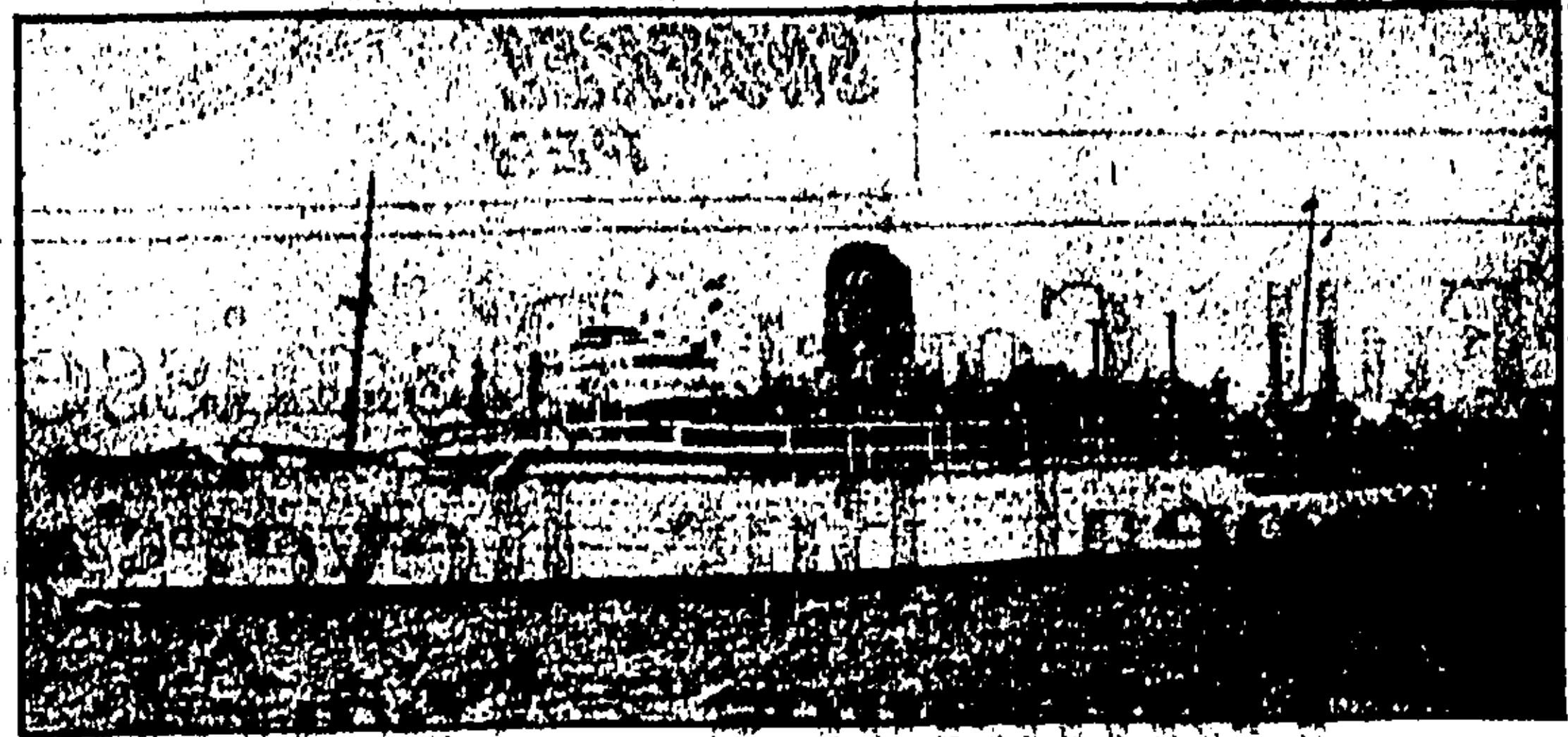








## Now P. &amp; O. Liner For Australian Run



The new 25,154 ton Peninsular and Oriental liner, Arcadia, will leave Tilbury on her maiden voyage to Australia on February 22. She is the largest ship ever to be registered in the port of London, will carry nearly 1,000 passengers. She will call at Port Said, Aden, Bombay, Colombo, Fremantle, Melbourne and Sydney on the outward journey and also at Adelaide on her return. The Arcadia is due back in London on May 6. — China Mail Special.

## Royal Visit To A Tropical Utopia All Depends On The Weather

Cocos Islands, Indian Ocean, Feb. 18.

The inhabitants of the Cocos Islands are eagerly awaiting the visit of Queen Elizabeth II on April 5 on her way home after her tour of New Zealand and Australia.

But whether the Queen will actually land is still not known. It may depend upon the weather. For the liner Gothic must anchor well clear of the coral reefs which strew the lagoon stretching seven miles out round Home Island where John Clunies-Ross V, so-called "King of the Cocos", lives.

If the seas are rough, as they are more than half the time, the Queen may not take the seven-mile launch trip from the open sea across the lagoon.

There is, however, already considerable controversy here about who will be presented to Her Majesty at a buffet luncheon at the Clunies-Ross mansion if she does land. The geography of the islands gives a clue to the fuss. There are three main islands—Home Island, Direction Island and West Island. Each has a completely different type

of population, different social customs and a different role in Cocos Islands life.

John Clunies-Ross, a quiet, strong-willed, young Oxford graduate, whose four sons graduated from the islands in 1927, has 900 years lease on the Cocos Islands.

Usually described as a "benevolent dictator", John Clunies-Ross, with his attractive Manchester wife, Daphne, rules the lives of his 300 Malay-stock islanders on Home Island. He has said he wants to protect them from outside influences.

### May Never Return

For this reason, any islander who once leaves Cocos may never return.

With money, mainly from copra sales, Clunies-Ross has set up a tiny welfare state with model villages and free health services. His islanders are allowed on to the other nearby islands only to collect the coconuts for the copra.

And visitors to Home Island may come only at the express invitation of Clunies-Ross himself.

Four miles away, across the blue lagoon is West Island, where the Australian Department of Civil Aviation has an international air strip.

West Island also has Shell Company oil installations, a big Quantas Empire Airways passenger hostel and a Royal Australian Air Force construction unit, which is leaving soon after putting finishing touches to the air strip.

### No Asian Labour

Life on West Island could not be more different from that on Home Island.

No Asian labour is allowed, because of Australian trade unionists, which controls all Australian labour.

Social life is centred in the plush Quantas passenger and staff lounges where travellers may pay up to £1 sterling for breakfast, where the island's only billiard table is found and where refrigerated Australian beer is in high demand.

It is the West Island type of life from which Clunies-Ross, according to his friends, is determined to "protect" his islanders.

Direction Island, between the two islands and to the north, has the air of peaceful Malaysian colonial life. Its occupants are Cable and Wireless officials who control the cable link between Australia and Singapore, and an Admiralty meteorological station.

### Pink Gins

Life on Direction Island is typified by the villa-cottages, lawns and tennis courts, and pink gins. Half the island's population of 100 is made up of a well-to-do expatriate British community. The island is a popular resort for the British and other expatriates who visit the island for the winter months.

whether they will meet, or even see, the Queen.

The few wives on West Island have been learning to curtsy and men have been enquiring about morning clothes. But usually well-informed sources report that John Clunies-Ross is unwilling to allow his island to become the scene of a big formal occasion.

He is said to have told the Governor of Singapore, Sir John Nicoll, that he would prefer the Queen's visit—if she comes—to be an informal one, devoid of pomp, and including only a select few of the 150-odd Europeans from the other islands.

### Surf-Washed Coral

Earlier suggestions were that the occasion should be the formal handing over ceremony of Cocos to the Australian Government.

But official sources say that, though the Cocos Islands have been virtually under Australian administration since the Department of Civil Aviation ceased most of West Island for an airfield, the British Government may not yet be ready to complete handing over ceremonies.

Still theoretically under Singapore Government administration, the British Administrator, the "District Officer", has little to do other than attend to the mails and occasionally entertain important visitors.

The real issue today on these surf-washed coral islands of waving palms and cool monsoons, is whether or not the islanders, with their jet aircraft, telephones, take books and movies, can be held a lagoo's length from a 19th-century Scotland's attempt to build Utopia. — China Mail Special.

### Scotland's Birth Rate Rising

### More Emigrating

London, Feb. 18.

Scotland's highest birth rate in recent years was offset by emigration so that the population rose by only about 4,000 last year, Mr. A. E. Hogan, Solicitor-General for Scotland, announced in Edinburgh today. There were 80,000 births and 80,877 deaths for a net gain of 12,031 persons. But 20,000 persons emigrated—half of them to England.

Scotland's birth rate which had been falling steadily in recent years rose in 1953 and was appreciably higher than that of England.

There were, however, deaths than in any year since 1886 when the population was less than this. The birth rate of 1953 was 12.0 per 1,000, compared with 11.5 in 1952. It had not increased since 1947 when it was 11.5. The death rate of 1953 was 10.8 per 1,000, compared with 10.5 in 1952. It had not increased since 1947 when it was 10.5. The net gain of 12,031 persons was the first since 1947 when there was a net gain of 12,031 persons.

## STEADIER TONE IN HK SHARES Profit-Taking In Evidence

By A Special Correspondent

The Hongkong Stock Exchange closed on a steadier note yesterday, up on the day, but on the week slightly lower after profit-taking had caused mild price fluctuations.

The most notable rise yesterday was that of Hongkong Land which rose \$2.50 in anticipation of the new issue terms being announced at yesterday evening's meeting.

The firmest section of the market at the moment appears to be utilities which are still offering a steady return of around six to six and a half per cent. Some brokers agree that prices in this section—which are not far off the recent peak levels—will not rise appreciably in the future unless there is a marked change in business conditions in the Colony.

The sudden increase in the volume of business transacted yesterday was the result of the sale of more than 120 Hongkong bank shares at their present dividend price of \$1.605. Even allowing for the dividend they are lower than they were a week ago (\$1.605) which was their highest point for about three years.

Hongkong Realty are actually down a few cents on the week. They propose to increase authorised capital from \$5 million to \$10 million—a big jump, but they are probably seeking to increase this figure in "one lump" to avoid calling a number of general meetings to approve increases as they need them.

The rumour is that they are going in for big properties in the Colony and will need a fairly large issue to finance the deal. Their present issued capital is \$4 million.

The past week has seen these changes: Wharves, steady at \$27.50. Docks, steady at about \$21.50. Provident old, steady at \$19.4. Wheelocks, a few cents lower at \$8.05 Hongkong Hotel, down 10-15 cents to \$34. Hongkong Land, up \$2.50 to \$50. Really down a few cents at \$2.174. Trans, down 40-40 cents at \$29.30. China Light, up ten cents to \$15.70 and new also up about ten cents to \$12.70. Electric, steady at \$32. Telephone, down about 50 cents to \$25.40. Cement, down 20 cents to \$21.10. Dairy Farms, down a fraction to \$27.80, and Textiles, up about 40 cents to \$7.45.

### LITTLE CHANGE

It will be seen there has been little change over the week. Turnovers generally have been small and although there is still much "idle money" in the Colony, buyers seem to be marking time for the present. Compared with yields six months ago utilities are not offering a terribly exciting return. This accounts for the recent favour for Hongkong Bank and Union Insurance two "safe and dependable" issues which are rivaling the yields of the utilities.

One or two items of interest this week: It was noticed that both Peak Tramways and Humphreys Estates have put a stop to Managers' commissions in the case of Peak Tramways they are selling John D. Humphreys and Sons Ltd 4,500 fully paid shares at \$10, and in the case of Humphreys Estates, they are "issuing" 25,000 fully paid \$10 shares to John D. Humphreys.

This, of course, is not a new development. It was started quite a few years ago by China Light and Hongkong Land took up the idea about six months ago. Presumably both companies have embarked on this plan at the instigation of shareholders for as business has been growing so have the commissions.

But it would be misleading to assume it was indicative of Hongkong's prosperity; rather, of inflation in the colony.

### ALLIED INVESTORS

Allied Investors Ltd., a new company registered in Hongkong on January 27, will shortly be inviting subscriptions from the public. I hear. The objects for which the company has been formed include some of the functions of an estate agent, a bank, a stock exchange in the Colony. The important role of providing access for business and industry, municipalities, boards and even Governments is filled in the large capital markets of the world by issuing houses, many of whose names are household words.

Whilst industry in the Colony is by reason of our limited area, close to its source of capital, actual contacts have hitherto been difficult to make and it may be expected that the new corporation will be welcomed and that its services in the industrial and financial development of the colony will be sought after.

It is understood too that similar will be maintained with other capital markets to that business and industrial opportunities in the Colony may be brought to notice.

### New York Metal Market

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